The Branches of Turtle Creek

by

W. W. Nelson

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Branches of Turtle Creek

ORIGINS AND EXTENSIONS OF THE FAMILIES OF GOD AND MEN AT A PLACE IN BOONE COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, "WHERE NO OTHER CREEK WOULD FIT"

BY W. W. NELSON

I cannot vouch for the truth of all that is contained in this volume. I have tried to ascertain the facts as far as is possible, but in some cases it was impossible to get the facts about some families. Many families I did not attempt to write about for lack of information. I am indebted to a pamphlet written by E. S. Nelson in 1924; a history of Logan county written by H. C. Ragland in 1896, and the following individuals for information: A. G. Hager, William Price, Mrs. Minnie Sanders, Arnold Sanders, Ira Dolin, Walter McKinney, Mrs. Frances Pauley, Caperton Miller, Dennis Stollings, Willie Doss, John Myers, Roy and Jess Hill, Wilbern Hill, Reid Coon, Lowell Hager, Bethel Sanders and Sigfus Olafson.

—W. W. Nelson, 1952.

Family of William and Mary Nelson,
Parents of the Author

Front row, Victoria and Elmer; second, William and Mary, and Isaiah; third, Alice, Sally, Sam and Sarah; fourth, W. W., Ezekiel, Sylvester and Floyd

Why Turtle Creek Is Where It Is And Why It Is Turtle Creek

When the good Lord created the earth, there was no other place anywhere that Turtle Creek would exactly fit in, so it's there and as far as I am concerned it can stay there. I don't know of any other creek that would fit in there anyway.

As to its name, it was probably called Morris Creek, then Breckenridge Creek—probaly from men who had hunting camps on the creek. John Morris Lived in the Kanawha valley. There are two accounts as to how the present name originated. Years ago there were turtle-shaped stones along the creek and some say that is how the name originated.

The other was that some hunters camped on the island at the mouth of the creek and while there they caught and ate a big turtle. Some say that's the way the name started. I wouldn't be surprised if one or the other stories is true, probably the first.

Every branch, hollow or ravine had a name: Long branch from its length; Right fork from the direction it came from; Mud fork because it headed against Mud river; Peneroil fork because there was a patch of peneroil on that fork; Cox's fork because a man by that name lived at its mouth.

Somebody killed a wildcat and someone else caught a coon, so we have a Wildcat hollow and a Coon branch. Somebody made sugar on a certain branch and we have Sugar Camp branch.

Ball fork took its name from the Balls who settled on it, Jacob Ball being the leader. Other branches were named after persons: Joe Cummings hollow, Burwell Pauley branch (I don't know this branch's first name; it was there before Mr. Pauley was). There was an Ellison hollow, and some say it was named for James Eli Ellison, one of the biggest preachers who came from Olive Branch church. So much for the names; they don't amount to much anyway. It is what has happened on Turtle Creek that counts.

Olive Branch Baptist Church

Olive Branch Baptist church of Turtle Creek, Boone county, West Virginia, was constituted an independent church on the first Saturday and probably the first day of October, 1824. William Wood and John Morris were the ministers appointed to examine the organization in regard to faith and doctrine. After examination they were declared orthodox and given up as an independent church and named the Olive Branch Baptist church. Prior to that time it had been an arm of the Upper Falls of Coal River church. For some cause or other the mother church went down, leaving Olive Branch as the oldest church in what is now the Coal River Baptist Association.

CHARTER MEMBERS: John Miller, Sarah Miller, Lavina Pauley, Mary Workman, Matthias Kesherner, Nutty Kesherner, Nancy Miller, Jacob Miller, Mary Miller, Charles Cummings, Sarah Cummings, Nancy Pauley, Nancy Halstead, Mary Hill, Joseph Byrnside, James Mitchell, Polly Mitchell, Black Bess and Jonathan Miller. Nineteen members organized the church and united together for the purpose of giving the gospel to the lost and helping each other live a more consecrated life. That was 128 years ago. Since that time Olive Branch has turned out 20 preachers. Some of them were very good preachers, too. These 19 people with William Wood who lived near the mouth of Brown's creek, five or more miles up Coal river from St. Albans and was their pastor—these started out to preach the gospel, win people to Christ, and establish a higher standard of moral living.

At one time the membership of this church was scattered over a wide territory, reaching down Little Coal river as far as Cobbs Creek and up some two or three miles above Bald Knob. On Big Coal some of its members lived at Peytona, some at what is now Seth and to the west as far as Logan town; and down Mud river to where Bethel church now stands. It had an arm on Big Coal which I suppose grew into the Healing Stream church, one on Mud river which grew into the Bethel church. It had an arm at one time on Pond fork of Coal river, but it must have gone down, as the Wharton and Gordon churches are the only Baptist churches on Pond Fork, and I hardly think they were the result of any work of Olive Branch church that far back.

William Wood resigned as pastor in December, 1830, and James Mitchell was elected pastor. He lived on Turtle Creek where Melvin and Ora Miller now live and was possibly able to give the church more time than their former pastor. Mitchell was followed by the following preachers as pastors:

PASTORS—William Wood, James D. Mitchell, William Walker, John Henry Simms, Wythel A. Wood, James Eli Ellison, William Watts, Benjamin L. Perry, Thomas F. Reynolds, Joshua Mitchell, Jacob Ball, J. A. Alley, Ed Harless, J. C. Bragg, A. J. Grass, C. T. Roberts, M. T. Miller, W. J. Roberts, G. L. Oxley, Fielden Hall, W. W. Nelson, M. F. Mitchell, J. Peter Moore, P. A. Mitchell, W. K. Riggs, L. Y. Ashworth, O. E. Caldwell, H. A. Jackson, P. A. Mitchell, Edward L. Parsons, and Glover P. Robinson.

Some of these pastors served more than one term with intervals between. This was true of James D. Mitchell, James E. Ellison, J. A. Alley, M. T. Miller, Ed Harless, P. A. Mitchell and L. Y. Ashworth. But along the way William Watts turned Campbellite and Fielden Hall backslid and gave up his credentials. Joshua Mitchell pastored the church more years than any other pastor and J. A. Alley was next with 17 years. At that time Abe Lincoln was an awkward lad of 15 and Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were still alive.

James Monroe was president, Henry Clay was the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Daniel Webster was a member of the lower House of Congress. Matches were not invented till three years later and the sewing machine was not invented for 20 years from that date. There were no railroads in the United States for five years hence. Ether or chloroform had never been used in surgery. The electric light was unknown. No cars, radios, television or talking machines, and even cookstoves were not known of in most homes. No refrigerators to keep food from spoiling and so many more things that we enjoy now, they just didn't have.

Well, how did they live without all those things, or did they live at all? I don't know so much about the how, but I do know they did, or we would not be here now. I wonder if we appreciate what the past generations have done for us.

How did they cook without a cookstove? Well, they had wide fireplaces with a rod of iron fitted into the jambs with hooks hung on it to hang their kettles on, and they usually had room to hang three or four kettles on at the

same time.

They had skillets with legs about three inches long in which to bake their bread. They would shovel out a bed of hot coals on the hearth, set the skillet on them, put their dough into the skillet and put a heavy iron lid on top and more live coals on the lid. This was a very simple way of doing things, but actually there were women in those days who could prepare food so it tasted mighty good to a hard-working man. I just don't believe they could have made it at all if it had not been for the women.

I suppose that women were stronger physically than they are now. It was said, and I suppose it was true, that the wife of Colonel John Miller who lived near the mouth of Big Branch near where Greenview now is could measure and shoulder three bushels of wheat; and when they were clearing land her husband took the first cut on the log and she took the next and often cut him off before he finished his. Some chopping for a woman, wasn't it? She was a sister to Rev. James D. Mitchell.

What did they do for clothing? Well, they had some, such as it was. The men, or at least some of them, wore coonskin caps, buckskin breeches, linen shirts and home-knit socks. The women wore dresses made of homespun linsey in the winter and linen in the summer. Later they wore calico dresses in the summer. In winter they wore home-knit yarn stockings that came over their knees and dresses that came down to their shoetops.

As to food, most of the people had enough to keep soul and body together, and some to help the less fortunate. They depended on the forest a lot for meat. Certain wild animals were plentiful in those days such as bear, deer, raccoons, squirrells, wild turkeys, pheasants, pigeons and quail. Most of this section consisted of forest land and most every year there was plenty of mast, such as acorns, chestnuts and beechnuts. Hogs ran wild in the woods and it was not a very hard matter to have plenty of pork. As for vegetables and fruits, they produced enough to supply their needs.

Sports consisted of hunting, fishing, skating in winter, and playing such games as roundtown, catball, bullpen and base. Jumping was also a favorite sport. The broad jump—either stand or run and jump one jump. Some could run and jump as far as 20 feet and some could stand and jump 11½ or 12 feet. Baseball and football were unknown in these parts then.

As to social gatherings, they had log rollings, corn huskings, bean stringings, flax skutchings and apple peelings. The church played an important part in the religious life of the community. They had their regular monthly meetings and usually a revival once a year.

Turtle Creek was blessed with good singers as far back as this writer can remember, and I suppose all the way back to when the church was organized. James D. and Joshua Mitchell were great hands to sing the old gospel hymns. Later the Millers, Mitchells and Pauleys and others furnished the church with good singing.

Watty Miller, the present choir leader, is one of the best that this community has ever produced. The worst thing about it is that he lives a long way from the church and does not attend regularly.

Educationally Turtle Creek and surrounding communities compare favorably with most any part of Boone county of similar area. Two college-bred doctors came out of this neck of the woods—James D. Mitchell and D. F. Pauley. Mitchell was one of the best on fevers of his day and Pauley could beat any man that ever made a track in these woods telling what ailed a person without anything to aid him except what old mother nature furnished him. Two other doctors who were not college-bred, Jacob Ball and F. D. Mitchell, came out of this section. Two veterinarians, W. H. Mitchell and E. E. Ball; one college-bred lawyer, C. M. Turley—a very brilliant man, but he let old John Barleycorn get the better of him. What a pity!

When it came to filling positions of importance, this neck of the woods had a part in that, too. By expanding a little we can get four county school superintendents: William Osborne, W. W. Hall, M. T. Miller and W. W. Nelson. Osborne, Hall and Miller served one term each and Nelson two terms. Miller and Nelson were members of the Olive Branch church. Will Osborne served six years or more as U. S. marshal for the southern district of West Virginia.

C. R. Mitchell was circuit clerk of Boone county for 12 years. F. T. Miller, who was reared on Turtle Creek, has been in the same office many years. I suppose they say he is a very efficient clerk. He also served a number of years as deputy U. S. marshal. The very efficient and good looking postmaster of Madison, A. T. Miller, grew up in the head of Turtle Creek. His father, whom I knew to be a very good man, served six years as a member of the county

court. Asa Canterbury also served six years in the same office. St. Clair Miller, another citizen of Turtle Creek, served six years in the same office. Elmer Nelson was county clerk 12 years and has worked in the assessor's office five years.

A. W. Nelson, Clyde Billups and C. W. Billups were also county superintendents, Nelson serving eight years. Nelson, Cecil and Clyde Billups and Melvin Roberts have their M. A. degrees. Roberts has been teaching in a college in Missouri and Billups has a good position in Washington, D. C. When it comes to school teachers, I wouldn't attempt to enumerate them all. It would take more paper than I have to spare, but most families felt like they were not measuring up to standard if they did not have from one to four teachers in the family.

One teacher from this part of Boone county has pupils in Florida, Virginia, New York, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Washington, Oregon, California and Nebraska, besides hundreds who still live in West Virginia.

Ministers who came out of Olive Branch Baptist church include: James D. Mitchell, 1825; William Walker, 1836; James E. Ellison, 1847; Joshua Mitchell, 1865; M. Staten, 1866; Jacob Ball, 1870; M. T. Miller, 1906; E. E. Ball, 1916; E. E. Barker, W. W. Nelson, 1919; Clell Miller, 1921; H. C. Billups and Lomer Miler, 1949. In addition to these the following from this section were ordained after they Left Turtle Creek: P. A. Mitchell, Allen Skeens, Bill Barker and Ephriam Pauley. Roy Covert, Herman Caudill Chester Miller and Daniel Pauley are licensed ministers from this community.

Among these preachers were two sets of twins: E. E. Barker and W. W. Nelson, and H. C. Billups and Lomer Miller. In addition to these the records show the following men as having been licensed to preach: Jacob Miller, Roy Covert, Charles Cummings, Herman Caudill and Joseph Byrnside—authorized to use the gift of exortation in the bounds of the church. Miller refused to accept his license because some had voted against it. Cummings passed out of the picture and this writer has been unable to find any trace of him or his descendants. Covert is in Florida teaching school. Byrnside moved to Point Pleasant. Caudill is living in Madison.

Deacons at Olive Branch church have included: Charles Cummings, December, 1924; Meredith Pauley, November, 1835; James E. Ellison, April, 1842; James Miller, 1848; Griffin Vickers, March, 1848; William Miller, May, 1854; George Miller, June, 1858; George Hill, Augustus Miller, Sylvanus Miller and Caperton Miller in

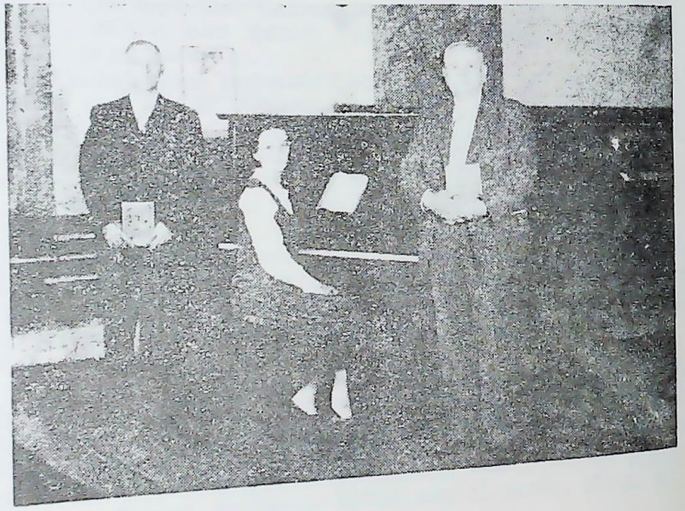
May, 1886; P. K. Miller and Burwell Miller, May 28, 1898; W. W. Nelson and F. T. Miller, June 21, 1906. Since that time the following have been appointed: Floyd Mabe, Virgil Bias, H. C. Billups, Alva Bias and Roscoe Miller who are the present deacons.

Records do not give names of clerks who served in Olive Branch Baptist church prior to 1832, although there must have been one. In 1832 Ephraim Pauley was chosen as clerk; John W. Pauley, 1834; Noah Haner, 1841; Joshua Mitchell, June, 1845; B. L. Perry, 1854; Long Jim Mitchell, June, 1854; Joshua Mitchell, 1856; Daniel M. Miller in 1860 (he must have served quite a while as there was no other clerk chosen until December 22, 1888, when F. D. Mitchell was appointed). Since about 1896, the following men have served as clerks: Perry Miller, E. S. Nelson, J. T. Smarr, Leonard Miller, Asa Miller and Virgil Bias. Perry Miller was clerk for a number of years and was janitor from 1881 to within a few years of his death.

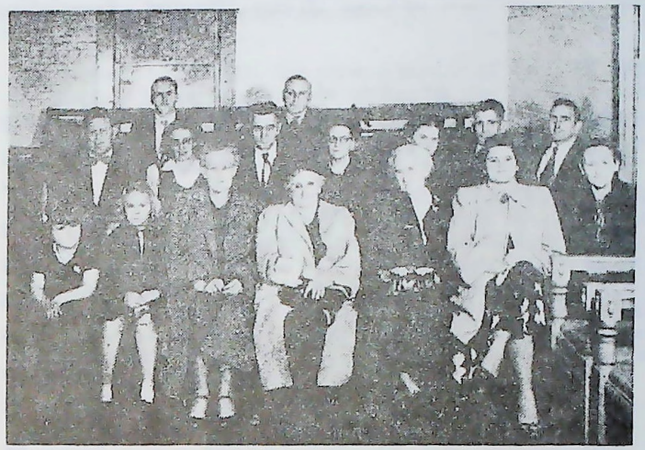
It seems that everybody who ever lived on Turtle Creek had to be something or do something. With some it may not have been much but what other creek has a better history? Doctors, lawyers (one, anyway), preachers more than a dozen, teachers by the score, veterinarians, farmers, horsetraders, coonhunters and some just common folks.

Olive Branch Baptist Choir

Assistant Pianist Leader



Prayer Band



Mission Circle

Olive Branch Baptisms Since Formation of Coal River Baptist Association

Date	Baptisms		
1902	0	1926	9
1903	0	1927	13
1904	38	1928	7
1905	17	1929	2
1906	14	1930	28
1907	18	1931	45
1908	8	1932	5
1909	17	1933	38
1910	34	1934	45
1911	5	1935	21
1912	0	1936	13
1913	28	1937	14
1914	17	1938	2
1915	19	1939	10
1916	15	1940	18
1917	19	1941	12
1918	5	1942	no record
1919	8	1943	no record
1920	19	1944	22
1921	0	1945	3
1922	7	1946	9
1923	5	1947	7
1924	6	1948	5
1925	7	1949	13
		1950	67

James D. Mitchell

James D. Mitchell, the second pastor of Olive Branch church and as far as this writer knows the first resident Baptist preacher of Turtle Creek, was the son of Joshua Mitchell, who came to this country from France with La-Fayette in the time of the Revolutionary war.

When the war was over he remained in this country and married a Miss Stigard and settled in Rockingham county, Virginia, and later moved to what is now Monroe county, West Virginia. He was married twice, but I do not know who his first wife was. They had two children, Tom and Nancy. He reared four boys and seven girls. Joe went west and stopped for a time in Missouri, and at one time owned the land or part of it where Kansas City now is. He probably wound up in California.

James D. married Polly Miller, a sister of Colonel John Miller, who later lived near the mouth of the Big branch that flows into Spruce river at Greenview. James Mitchell served in the war of 1812. He moved to Turtle Creek in 1820 and settled where Melvin and Ora Pauley Miller now live. Some say that a part of the old log house which he built is still standing. If this is true, it would be 132 years old.

He had three sons and six daughters. Joshua married Katy Miller, daughter of Colonel John Miller; Dr. James D. Miller married Louisa Vickers, daughter of Griffin Vickers. Sarah married Rev. James E. Ellison. Susan married Col. E. S. Miller. Betsy married William Miller, son of Daniel Sen. Nancy married Jones Roberts and had three sons who were Baptist preachers. Margaret (Peggy) married Peter Billups. She was the great grandmother of Rev. H. C. Billups. Agnes married Daniel Miller, son of "Fork" John. Michael married a Miss Garrett.

James Mitchell served Olive Branch as pastor from 1830 to 1840 and again as pastor later. He left Turtle Creek about 1840 and moved to Ohio. He lived on Symm's Creek for a time, but he must have liked West Virginia better than he did Ohio, for he soon came back and settled on Buff's creek near Hurricane. He preached over a wide territory extending from the upper part of Coal river valley to St. Albans and parts of Guyan and Kanawha valleys.

He helped to organize the Forks of Coal church in 1834 and Coal's Mouth, now St. Albans, in 1860.

He died in 1863 at the home of his son, James D. Mitchell, who then lived on Low Gap creek. He was buried about one-fourth mile above the church on Turtle Creek, on the west side of the creek just across from where Leonard Miller now lives. No one now living knows which grave is his. It's a shame!

I would say at least 30 of his descendents have been preachers (most of them Baptists). Some were doctors, some lawyers, and scores of them were teachers.

Joshua Mitchell

Joshua Mitchell, son of Rev. James D. Mitchell, was born in Monroe county, now West Virginia, in 1817. His father moved to Turtle Creek in 1820. Here Uncle Joshua grew to manhood. On the 15th of March, 1835, he was united in marriage to Catherine (Katy) Miller.

He was converted and joined the Olive Branch church in September, 1844, under the pastorate of his father. He was appointed clerk of the church in June, 1845 and again in 1856. He was ordained at Mt. Pisgah church in October, 1865.

He must have served Olive Branch most of the time from his ordination till his death in 1885. He is said to have served the church more years than any other preacher and J. A. Alley served 17 year in all.

Four churches were founded as a result of his labors:

Bethel, July 10, 1867; Bethlehem on Fuqua's Creek, before 1873; Olive, 1868; Left Hand Fork, 1883.

His was a social spirit. He came talking and went talking. Everybody was glad to see Uncle Joshua coming.

In addition to his church work he served as justice of the peace and was elected as assessor of Boone county in 1860, but the war prevented him from carrying out the duties of his office. He had an interest in the same office when he died.

He was a good revivalist and a great singer of old gospel hymns. He died at the home of his son, James Mitchell, on the Indian Grave branch of Turtle Creek in 1885, and was buried on Mud river two miles from Mud Gap on a farm that had been his old home, now owned by the heirs of John G. Roberts. No stone marks his grave except some roughly dressed sandstones hewed out by his son, Sylvester.

Uncle Joshua's children were Andrew, who married Sally Ann Kisherner. They reared two sons, Edgar and Joshua.

Sylvester, who married a Turley, was the father of Elverton, Joshua, Isaac, Jane, Bettie, Mary, Susan and Roxy. Elverton married a Gundy, Joshua married America Miller, Isaac married Roxy Coon, Jane married Joe Barker, Bettie married John Kidd; Mary married Cleophas Miller, Susan married James Miller, Margaret married Marshall Coon and Roxy married an Albright.

Sampson married Roxanna Pauley, daughter of Henry Pauley. They were the parents of nine children, all boys. A. B. married Cerilda Miller. They were the parents of several children: Allard, Roy, Harrison, and one boy who died before he was grown. Donna married Otto Miller. James Doliver married Lyda Miller. They were the parents of Earl, Asa, Girta and at least two other daughters. They moved to Putnam county.

Henry Mitchell married a Chambers. They had two children, Ted and Hattie. Then he married a Tawney and they have one or two children. George married a daughter of Fred Chambers. They were the parents of three girls and two boys. May Mitchell taught a few years, was married, moved to Alum Creek and died.

One daughter, Ella, married Rex Palmer. Dennis lives at St. Albans. Virginia married Jack Perkins. George, jr., married Jo Ann Dixon.

James, son of Rev. Joshua Mitchell, married Melissa Miller. They were the parents of Martha, Herbert and Philip.

Freeman Mitchell married Agnes Griffith. They had two boys, Horton and Ashby, and four girls, Anna, Carrie, Alice and Elsie. Ned or Edwin Mitchell married Elizabeth Miller and to them were born two boys, Millard and Walter. Millard spent 30 years in the Army. Walter moved to Putnam county. They also had two daughters: Ella married Andrew Mitchell. The other girl never married.

●

M. T. Miller

M. T. Miller was born on Low Gap creek, a tributary of Spruce Fork of Coal River somewhere around 1879. He began teaching school in 1896. He taught school a number of years and was elected county superintendent in 1918. He served one term but was defeated for re-election by C. N. Coon.

He united with the Olive Branch church about 1904 and was soon licensed to preach. His first text was, "And They Began to Make Excuses." He was ordained June 21, 1906. He was pastor of the Olive Branch church two or three times. He pastored churches in Boone, Lincoln, Logan and Kanawha counties in West Virginia. He possibly pastored one church for a time in Pennsylvania. He also pastored a church at St. Marys in Pleasants county for a short time. He held a revival or two in North Carolina.

M. T. Miller served one term in the State Senate, worked for a time in the Compensation department and was employed by a Power company when he died from a heart attack.

James Eli Ellison

James Eli Ellison was born in Monroe county (then Virginia) on the 14th of August, 1820. He came to Turtle Creek in his early manhood and on March 21, 1837, he married Sarah Mitchell, daughter of Rev. James D. Mitchell, he with 10 cents and she with 12½.

He built a two-room log house with a chimney in the middle somewhere on Turtle Creek. It was covered with clapboards of his own making. The doors were of the same material. It had punchceon floors hewed out with a broad ax. He had no horse with which to plow his ground, but he made good use of his hoe and soon got able to buy a horse by going in debt for it.

On March 5, 1842, he was received into full fellowship of the Olive Branch Baptist church, having been baptized by William Walker in Rock Creek. He had joined the church and had been put under the water before this. But we couldn't say he had been baptized, salvation being essential to baptism, and he didn't have that yet.

He said the farthest he ever walked to church and back the same way was 16 miles, making 32 miles in all, and waded Coal river three times that day. Preachers had the grit in those days, didn't they?

He was ordained about 1847 at the Forks of Coal church. He moved to Elk river about 1848 and later to Slaughter's Creek. In about 1850 Slaughter's Creek church was organized under his labors and Mt. Olivet in 1852. Later he moved to Indiana and founded the following churches: Mt. Pisgah, Mosco, Pipe Creek and Lily Creek.

He said in his autobiography that he had pastored six churches in West Virginia and 12 in Indiana. He had conducted or helped to conduct revivals in churches where he was not pastor: in West Virginia, 6, Indiana 16, Illinois 3 and Ohio 12. He estimated that he had baptized 1500 persons and witnessed the baptism of many others who were converted under his preaching. He helped to ordain R. Swinburn, George Griffith, T. F. Holt and M. B. Edmondson. He claimed the following sons in the ministry: M. B. Edmondson, T. F. Holt, S. Harkins, T. Young and J. Barrow (white), and L. C. Natas (colored). He baptized George Griffith.

George Hill

George Hill was born on Coal River in what is now Boone county. He was the son of Jackson and Rhoda Miller Hill. He served in the Civil War, married Susan Godby, settled on Big Creek and reared the following children: Obed, Ira, G. W., Hubert, Victoria and Mary.

He became a member of the Olive Branch church many years ago and was ordained a deacon in 1886. He served in this capacity till his death.

He was very regular in his attendance, very attentive to the preaching, a strong supporter of the church, and one of the strongest defenders of the faith. He generally acted a moderator when the pastor was not present.

William "Bill" Barker

William "Bill" Barker was born on Turtle Creek. He was the son of Preston and Rosa Miller Barker and brother of Rev. E. E. Barker of West Madison. He was converted and united with the Olive Branch Baptist shurch in 1912. In 1919 the family moved to Jackson county, O. Bill remained there for a few years and then took up plastering for a business. This led him to different localities, one which was Alderson, W. Va. There he met a Miss Stevens, whom this writer thinks is a real woman; and it could be possible that she had a lot to do with Bill's success.

They moved from place to place in search for work. They were at Madison for a time, then to Florida and from there back to High Point, N. C. He was not too successful at first and got in debt, but he did love to sing and started singing for revivals. Some nine or ten years ago the Baptist church at High Point licensed him to preach and called him as pastor. Since then he has devoted his whole time to the ministry, preaching in several different states including North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia. He broadcasts over the radio once or twice a week.

He estimates that there have been five thousand people converted under his preaching and the number baptized runs into the thousands; and funerals and marriages in the hundreds. This is just an estimate, for he has not kept any record of the number. The Lord has wonderfully blessed him at High Point. When he was called as pastor the church was in debt. Since then they have paid that debt and built a new house variously estimated to cost from 60 to a 100 thousand dollars, and the membership has more than doubled.

G. R. Covert

G. R. Covert was born on Big Creek in Boone County. He was the son of John and Victoria Hill Covert, and grandson of George Hill.

He attended the grade schools in Boone county, got his high school work in Logan, attended Concord Normal at Athens, W. Va., and Morris Harvey College, Charleston, from which he graduated with an A. B. degree.

He taught his first school at Round Bottom in Lincoln county about 1908 or 1909. He taught in West Virginia long enough to retire, and has been teaching in Florida the last four or five years. He also dealt in real estate and owns quite a bit of property in West Virginia and Florida.

He was converted and united with the Olive Branch Baptist church in 1909, later moved his membership to Chapmanville; and in 1946 to the First Baptist church at Okeechobee, Fla. He married Lena Miller. They have no children. He says that W. W. Nelson and P. A. Mitchell helped him more than any other teachers he ever had.

P. A. Mitchell

P. A. Mitchell was born March 26, 1886, in Boone county. He spent his early life on Turtle Creek, teaching in the public schools for a number of years in that locality.

In 1915 he left Boone county to become a fruit farmer in Putnam county. In 1918 he made the confession of saving faith in Jesus Christ, uniting with the Providence Baptist Church of Teays Valley association. At that time a Baptist mission Sunday School was organized on Bills Creek near the Mitchell home, using the school building for worship. Soon it became apparent that a church should be organized in this neighborhood. So the Judson Baptist church came into being. He was active in the promotion of this new church and was one of its charter members. July 16, 1921, the Judson church honored him with a license certificate to improve his gifts in preaching the gospel.

The Olive Branch Baptist and the Judson Baptist churches called for his ordination at the same time. A council of the churches of the Teays Valley association was called to convene at the Judson Baptist church January 29, 1928. As the weather was so bad a quorum did not appear on the above date, so the service was continued to February 3rd to meet at the Winfield Baptist church at Winfield. Representatives of the required number of churches were present and the ordination service was effected.

The fruit farm exacting so much time he refused to take over three Sundays a month in pastoral work for a year or more. This conscience would not allow, and the farm passed out of the picture. While opportunities were offered to larger churches, he has felt obligated to serve the rural and small village churches.

He has had pastorates in Boone, Lincoln and Putnam counties, eight churches in all. He has had the pleasure of becoming the first full-time pastor of Judson Baptist church which was the first rural church to put on a full-time program in the Teays Valley association. He has spent 24 years with this church, and now ending 14 years as its pastor.

He is now 65 years old, and has preached some 3,000 sermons and baptized around 400 persons. He has said, "If I had a thousand lives to live, I'd wish them all spent in the gospel ministry."

The greatest reward is shared with Paul in I Thess. 2:19: "For what is our hope, joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?"

P. A. Mitchell was not a college-bred, but a Bible-learned preacher, sound in doctrine, strong in faith, and a 100 per cent Baptist. W. W. Nelson

Clell C. Miller

Rev. Clell C. Miller was born January 5, 1893, on Low Gap creek. He was saved and united with Olive Branch church in November, 1914. He remained a member of this till 1921. He was ordained there May 8, 1921, attended Moody Bible Institute in 1917, was in World War I, attended Southern Baptist Theological seminary at Louisville, Ky., 1921-22-23, pastored 15 churches in Kentucky and West Virginia, and preached in 23 states and Canada.

He estimates that he has preached 5250 sermons, taught 35 Bible studies which lasted from five to 10 days, had 2300 conversions, baptized 1175 persons, performed 350 marriages and preached 625 funerals.

His favorite scriptures are Rev. 11:30, "He that winneth souls is wise," and Gal. 6:14.

E. E. Barker

Rev E. E. Barker was converted at the age of 17 and united with the Olive Branch Baptist Church. Being deeply impressed with a call to the ministry, he submitted and entered Moody Bible Institute for preparation. Here he remained over a year meeting his own expenses. After leaving Moody, he came back to West Virginia. In 1918 he conducted his first revival at Round Bottom, Lincoln county. There were 27 confessions in this meeting, 22 of them for baptism. Not one penny was donated to him in that revival. He continued in the work preaching wherever there were opportunities. This was done largely in school houses. On May 4, 1919, he was married to Jessie Skeenes, a fine Christian girl, and on the next Sunday, May 11, 1919, he was ordained to the ministry at his old home church.

Other than the training at Moody he took some training at the Southern Baptist Theological Seininary, Louisville, Ky. He is a graduate of Scott high school, Madison, and also of Rio Grande College, Rio Grande, Ohio, which was a Junior College at that time. He and his wife took this high school and college training together paying their own way.

His first pastorates were Eden Baptist Church, Griffithsville and Amy Baptist Church, Yawkey. This was 1921. In all he has pastored 16 churches; 10 in the Coal River Association, two in the Teays Valley Association, Putnam county, and four in southern Ohio.

He has conducted revivals in three different states: West Virginia, North Carolina and Ohio. Rev. Barker has not kept an account of baptisms, restorations, and of those who have come into his church by letter but several hundred have taken a stand.

At present he is pastor of the Wharton Baptist church, Wharton, W. Va., in a large coal field. He has served nearly nine years these precious people. During his ministry there he has seen the church grow from 100 and some members to a membership of about 500. About 245 of these have come in by baptism. He has conducted many funerals and united in marriage 244 couples.

This writer has known Rev. Barker from his infancy and I think I would be safe in saying that he has lived one of the cleanest lives of any of the preachers of this section, never smoked, chewed, nor snuffed, drank liquor or cussed and he could do one thing that some preachers don't do and that was shake hands with a woman as quick as he could a man.

He never tried to find anything better than the gospel to preach.

—W. W. Nelson

B. L. Perry

B. L. Perry came to Paw Paw, now Salt Rock on the Guyandotte River from Orange county, Virginia, 1849, where he pastored the Enon church for 30 years, of which all his family were members. Three of his sons and one grandson were preachers.

W. W. Nelson

W. W. Nelson was born October 11, 1874, in the head of Mud River in Boone County. He was the son of William R. and Mary (Polly) Miller Nelson, and was counted the worst of a family of 11 children though he wouldn't be considered so bad now. He never drank liquors to any noticeable extent and never drank but one bottle of beer in his life. He was honest and tried to stick close to the truth. He never swore unless it was when he was by himself or with somebody.

He went to school some and studied more at home than he ever did at school, and is still a student at the age of 77.

He taught or tried to teach his first school at the head of Turtle Creek in 1896. Before the school was out, he married Isabell Miller, daughter of Augustus and Julia Pauley Miller, a girl to whom he had been engaged for four years. He never regretted this.

Their home was a kind of haven for the unfortunate children, many of whom made his home their home for a number of years.

He taught school 33 years, and was Superintendent of Boone county schools for eight years, from July, 1911, to July, 1919. For a number of years he taught two terms when teachers were scarce and terms were short.

He was converted and joined Olive Branch church in 1904, was baptised by Rev. C. T. Roberts near where Curtis Miller's and Linford Ball's store now stands.

He was ordained as a deacon in June, 1906, and was licensed and called as pastor of Olive Branch church in 1918. He was ordained May 11, 1919, along with E. E. Barker. They are twin brothers though they do not favor much.

He was moderator of the Coal River Association for three years, 1917-18-19. In 1921 he left Mud River and Boone county and moved to a 200-acre farm in Jackson county, Ohio, He still owns his farm in Ohio, but he still loves the West Virginia hills and people.

Ernie, the Author's daughter, and Etta Bias when they were like sisters

Patrick K. Miller

Patrick K. Miller was born September 23, 1865. He was the son of Benton J. and Vanilia Miller and grandson of Col. E. S. Miller of Turtle Creek, Boone county. It would be hard to tell whether he was more Miller than Mitchell or more Mitchell than Miller, but if the Miller and Mitchell had both been taken out, there wouldn't have been much left.

He grew up on a farm near the Olive Branch Church and was rather wild in his early life, but in February, 1886, when Joe Alley and Bill Moore were holding a revival on Turtle Creek, he was born again and a very decided change took place in his life. Even after this, his whole heart's desire seemed to be to serve the Lord and the old church was very dear to him. He loved to hear good preaching.

He was ordained as a deacon May 28, 1898, and served in that capacity as long as he was able to attend church. He estimated that he had baptized around 35 persons, and in the absence of ordained ministers he talked at quite a number of burials.

He died of a heart attack in the Presbyterian church at Clothier, on the night of December 12, 1950.

Burwell Miller

Burwell Miller was a member of Olive Branch since 1886 and was a deacon from 1898 till his death.

He was a very industrious man. His rule was to get up at four o'clock summer or winter and read his Bible while his wife prepared breakfast.

He was like most of the Millers: strong set in his ways, hard to change after he had his mind set.

This is a good disposition to have, provided you are careful to get your mind set right.

William Walker

William Walker came from North Carolina in 1822 and settled on Pond Fork a mile above Bald Knob. He married Nancy Browning. He united with the Olive Branch Baptist Church in October, 1833, and was ordained in 1836, pastoring the church in the early forties.

He baptized James Eli Ellison in Rock Creek in March, 1842. It has been said that he was the only man in Boone county that voted for Abe Lincoln in 1860.

In March, 1845, he was given a letter to unite with a church in Wyoming county.

Lomer L. Miller

Lomer Lowell Miller was born December 25, 1925. He was converted in the fall of 1940 in Dr. B. R. Lakin's meeting in Madison, and was baptized by Rev. P. A. Mitchell, October 20, 1940. He joined the Navy November 5, 1942, and was discharged honorably, February 24, 1946, having promised God overseas at Okinawa that he would be faithful to His cause and kingdom, if God would spare his life in a severe plane attack.

He rededicated his life in August of 1946. Soon after his rededication he was called to preach the gospel to the lost and dying world. He said he did not surrender to the calling until in the Spring of 1947.

Believing that the call to the ministry was a call to make preparation, he entered the Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, in September, 1949. He preached in three counties in Arkansas and preached the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church in the Black River for nine months for these months God blessed his labor and 23 lost souls were won to the Lord. He said, "Making the biggest mistake of my life I left the College in January 1951, since then I've ministered to people of five counties in West Virginia never being called to any church."

Allen Skeenes

Allen Skeenes was born on Turtle Creek, Boone county, September 15, 1905. He was converted and joined Olive Branch Baptist church while quite young. He attended the grade schools in Boone county, Rio Grande College in Ohio, Marshall College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky.

He taught school for a number of years, but soon gave up teaching and devoted his full time to the ministry.

He estimates that he has pastored the Naomi Baptist Church for two years, Cobbs Creek, seven years, Forks of Coal two years, Hamlin Baptist Church, three and a a half years, and Oak Wood Baptist Church for one year and seven months. He is still pastor there at this writing.

He has held revivals in many churches in Lincoln, Logan, Wayne, and Kanawha counties including West Logan, Starcher, Kanawha City, Walnut Hills, Gassaway, and some others. He estimates approximately one thousand converts and seven hundred baptisms.

He worked one summer for the State Christian Education Department. He helped organize two churches, was president of the Sunday school convention in the Coal River association two years, and moderator of the Coal River association one year.

J. A. Alley

J. A. Alley came to the Coal River Valley from Montgomery county, Virginia, about 1883. He married Carrie Hill, daughter of Benjamin Hill and sister of Pinhook John.

He was called to the pastorate of Olive Branch Church in 1885. He started out as a Methodist, but later became a very strong Baptist. He served the church 17 years in all and many names were written in the church book while he was pastor.

He was not very highly educated but used fairly good language for a man of his ability. He said he learned his language from the Bible.

He educated his children. He has one son who is a noted singer.

Balls in Boone County

Some time in the early part of the Nineteenth century there seemed to have been a whole family of Balls who came from Monroe county to what is now Boone county: Gus Ball, father of Park Ball; Joseph Ball, James, John and Jacob Ball.

John Ball married Louisa Miller, daughter of Col. John Miller. He was the father of Rufus Ball, Ballard, Gilbert and Benjamin Ball. One daughter married Burwell Lucas. Rufus married a Hager and reared the following children: Robert, Charlie, Arley, Avon, Meda, Sarah, Belle and Dora. One married a Cook. Meda married Little Daniel Miller. Sarah married Lewis Bias. Dora married Isaiah Miller, jr. Belle married M. V. Mitchell. Bob married Elvira Pauley, daughter of Lee Pauley. They were parents of Burwell and Roncie Ball. Charley married Laura Pauley, daughter of Burwell and Lavina Pauley. Arley married Esta Estep, daughter of Oliver Estep of Brush Creek. They had the following children: Limbert, Wendell, Sherlock, Vada, Arleyne, Ruth, Dorene and Floy. Wendell was born blind, but he is getting along very well. Avon Ball married about Huntington and lives there.

Ballard Ball married a Copley, settled on Big Branch and reared the following children: Walter, Edward, Delmer, Jonathan, Hillard, Giles, Hettie, Ora, Martha. Hettie married Watt Breedlove. They had five boys and one girl. Watt and two of the boys were killed by trains, but not at the same time. Alice married Paul Turley and lives in Madison. Gilbert Ball lived in the head of Meadow Fork of Hewett and reared a family there. One of his daughters married George W. Hager. Another one or two married Hagers.

Benjamin Ball married Lovenas Hager, daughter of Enoch Hager, and raised a large family. He lived most of his life at or near Greenview. He taught school for many years and was secretary of the board of educcation for a number of years. His children are: Eloda, married to Ulysses S. Webb of Ohio; Mrs. Isaac (Belva W.) Conley, deceased; Mrs. H. H. (Laura) Price of Danville; Mrs. Burley (Nancy) Mullins of Madison; Leland S., Mrs. Sadie Miller, Millard F., Cecil and Mrs. Adrian (Lebeechen) Pauley, all of Greenview; Mrs. Gertrude Gwinn and D. H. Ball of Charleston.

Jacob Ball married Polly Miller, daughter of John Miller. They settled on Ball Fork of Turtle Creek, and possibly it was from them that the name originated. They were the parents of two boys and three girls. John married Rebecca Roberts, daughter of Joseph and Nancy Roberts. They were the parents of the following children: Elbert, Thomas, Wilmer, Coda, Monnie, Alpha, Chloe and Lennie. Elbert married a Bennett and after she died, he married Alice Nelson, daughter of William Nelson. Their children were Georgia, Eva, Myrta, Opal and Homer.

Georgia married Okey Ballard and moved to Florida. Eva married a Turley and lives at St. Albans. Myrta married a Hedrick. They live at St. Albans also. I do not know Homer's wife, but it is my opinion that she is one of the best women in that neck of the woods.

Neither do I know the name of Opal's husband. Neither Homer nor Mabel have any children.

Thomas Ball married Victoria Nelson. Their children were Luna, Ted, Carnie, Clyde, David Absher, Thomas and Fay.

Luna, Ted, Absher and Fay live in Ohio. Clyde lives in Madison. Thomas, jr., lives in Sattes, W. Va., near Nitro. Carnie has never married but owns a farm in Ohio. Fay married Basil Hill, son of Hubert Hill of Big Creek. They have three boys.

Alpha married Millard Miller. They moved to Jackson County, Ohio. Chloe married William Barrett. They were the parents of Myrtle Barrett, who married Augustus Nelson ,son of W. W. Nelson; Alma who married a Maynard; and Hattie, who also married a Maynard.

Wilmer married an Adkins. Cody married Reeda Miller, widow of Tolbert Miller and daughter of Lum Miller. Monnie has been married three times. He lives near Charleston. Lennie married Millard Ballard and lives near Cheshire, Ohio.

Ballards

Ballards were Scotch and were among the early settlers of Boone county. The first one that we have any record of was William, born in Scotland about 1690 or 1700. Some of his sons came to America and settled east of the Blue Ridge prior to the Revolutionary War. Some of his sons and possibly a grandson or two fought in the Revolutionary War.

After the war some of his sons moved to what is now Monroe county, West Virginia. William, jr., Philip, Elijah, and Curtis being some of them. William died in Monroe county. Curtis moved to Ohio in 1810. Philip and Elijah moved to the Pond Fork about 1805. It seems that Elijah's family moved on west possibly to Indiana, but Philip's family remained in what is now Boone county. Among his sons-in-law were Matthias Kessinger, Clay Rucker from whom Rucker's branch took its name, and John Sparr who gave his name to Sparr's Creek.

Nutty and Matthias Kessinger lived in West Madison. Two married Dolins. There was another daughter but I don't know whom she married.

Sons of Philip were Tom, John and Philip, jr. There was a Fielding Ballard, possibly a son of Philip that lived for a time on the Hopkins farm below Danville and moved from there to Mud River.

When Bethel Church was organized in 1867 about 13 miles above Hamlin, there were four Ballards among the charter members. Maybe they were decendents of Fielding Ballard.

John Ballard married Chloe Flinn, a girl who had been captured by the Indians on Cabin Creek and all the family had been killed except Chloe and one brother whom the Indians kept for some time. And Daniel Boone when he was living in the Kanawha Valley succeeded in rescuing them and returning them to relatives in Monroe county. The boy was recaptured by the Indians and burned at the stake at Portsmouth, Ohio.

John and Chloe Linn Ballard had three sons, Chapman, St. Clair, and Rhodes D. Ballard. Chapman Ballard married Nancy Price, daughter of Tom Price, the first settler at Danville. St. Clair Ballard married Ruth Meadows. Rhodes D. Ballard married Polly Perry, daughter of Jo Perry on Buffalo Creek in Logan county, and was said to be one of the most prominent citizens of that

region. He was a justice of the peace for years, served one term in the legislature and was a member of the county court for a long time.

Children of Chapman Ballard were Riland, 1824-1886; Henley, 1826-91; Chloe married Eward M. Henley, Elizabeth, 1839-1926, married Dryden Stollings and William Smoot. She was the mother of Doutin Stollings and one daughter by William Smoot. The daughter married Wallace Allen, son of the Hon. James Allen. Lucy, 1833-1886, married J. Floyd Hager. They were the parents of A. G. (Doc) Hager of Danville, Bert who died in Florida recently, Dell Hager, and Ella both of whom have been dead for a number of years.

St. Clair Ballard's children included Marine, 1833-1905, who married Mary Averell, daughter of J. H. and Mary Smoot Averell. By this marriage he had four boys: John Oscar, Mont, St. Clair, Burwell S. (married Susan Bowman). He died in the Civil War. Letha, 1837-97, married M. J. Hopkins. Julian, 1838-, was never married. Nancy J. 1843-, married Hugh J. Willburn. John, 1845-, married Margaret Powell, daughter of John and Teletha Powell.

Marine was married twice. His second wife was Mary Allen, sister of Hon. James Allen. By this marriage he had four boys, Edward, James, Oliver and Glover. James married a Workman, daughter of Clay Workman. They had one boy and one girl.

Marine had three or four girls. Minnie married Evan Sanders, one married a Taylor, one married Jo Thompson.

Burwell S. Ballard had two boys, Millard and B. S. of Low Gap and Mrs. George Hill of Six Mile. B. S. married Victoria Miller, daughter of Floyd Miller. They had several children including Millard who married Lenna Ball and moved to Ohio, Ira who married Georgia Covert. They live in Arizona, Lula, who married Wallis Miller, son of Tom Miller of Turtle Creek. They moved first to Jackson county West Virginia, and from there to a big stock farm at Waterford, Ohio. Wallis now lives at Low Gap and his boys run the farm. B. S. Ballard had five daughters: Effie, Ruth, Susan, Nettie and Lula. Boys: Alba, Elba, Aubrey, Dewey, Julian, Ira, Okey and Millard.

George and Anne Hill were parents of several children but their names were given in connection with the Hills.

John Ballard had a son, Walter, who married a Garrett, and Johnny, but possibly he died without ever marrying. He also had some daughters but Georgia is the only one I remember.

They moved down on Coal near the Upper Falls.

Chapman Ballard and Nancy Price Ballard were the parents of Riland, 1824, Henley 1826, Elizabeth, 1839, Chloe, 1833, Lucy, 1843.

Riland Ballard was the father of Charley, Andrew, Okey, James, Callie, Ann, Mollie, Caldona, Victoria and Belle.

Charley never married. Andrew married a daughter of William Griffith. They had two children, Esa and Carter. Okey married a Jeffrey. James married a Griffith. They had one daughter, Hah, who married a White. Callie went to Huntington. Ann married French McNeely. Mollie married George Workman. They had one daughter who married Roscoe Turley, whose children are Roscoe and Mary Jane. Sons of George Workman are Basil and identical twins, Ray and Joe.
names.

Caldona married Herschel Stollings. They were the parents of Hallie, Sam and—

Victoria never married. Belle married Doc Hill, son of Canterberry Hill.

Henley Ballard married Paulina Hopkins, daughter of Henry S. Hopkins. They had three children: Chapman, jr., Mrs. Dow Miller and a Mrs. Wheeler.

Chapman married a Keeney. They had one son and two daughters, Dana, Maymie and Maggie. Dana moved away. Maymie is postmistress at Danville. Maggie married Buff Fulton.

St. Clair Ballard was a delegate from Logan county in the Virginia assembly when Boone county was formed and he suggested the name Boone because Daniel Boone had rescued Chloe Flinn, St. Clair's mother or grandmother, from the Indians. According to a report she was his mother and according to another she was his grandmother.

Billupses

Peter Billups was said to have come from Missouri to Putnam county. He married Margaret (Peggy) Mitchell, daughter of Rev. James D. Mitchell. He settled on Big Creek of Putnam county. He was the father of Charles, Napoleon, Silas and Pomp Billups. There were some girls in the family: one married Jerry Robert, and one married a Lewis and moved to Ohio. Silas married Eliza, daughter of Col. E. S. Miller. He was in the Civil War and belonged to the Cavalry. He had two horses shot from under him. He was in the battle of Lookout Mountain and the battle of Gettysburg. He was taken prisoner while home on a furlough. They had only one son, J. M. Billups, who married Myrta Miller, daughter of Silas and Elizabeth Miller. They had two sons and three daughters.

Margaret married Hurstle Bias. They have five children and four grandchildren.

Cecil married Delores Ratliff. He has his M. A. degree from college, was superintendent of schools for three years and is assistant superintendent at present. They have two daughters and one son.

Hillard married Evalin Barker, daughter of Howard Barker. They have two daughters.

Hillard is an ordained Baptist preacher, the pastor of two churches: Amy at Yawkey and Eden at Griffithsville. He also works at the carpenter trade.

Ruby and Elizabeth are married and live on the old home place at the Forks of Turtle Creek. Neither of them have any children.

Biases

The first of the Bias family that we have any record of in these parts settled on Bear Branch below West Hamlin. Two of his sons, James and Obadiah, came to Hewett: James to the mouth of Missouri Fork, probably about 1815. James was sheriff of Cabell county in 1816, and was at that time living on Hewett. Two of Obadiah Bias' sons married daughters of Col. John Miller. Armstrong married Susan Miller and Simeon married Delila Miller. Simeon Bias was the father of three sons, John, Bill and Dave. Armstrong Bias was the father of Sylvester and Roland

Bias. Roland lived on the Hurricane fork of Big Creek. Sylvester Bias married Elizabeth Ball, daughter of Jacob Ball. He settled on the Ball Fork of Turtle Creek and reared a large family. He was a hard working man and knew how to save what he made. He was justice of the peace for a number of years. They were the parents of seven boys: Noah, Burwell, Henry, Calvin and Grover; and three girls, Sarah, Eliza and Mary. Noah married Victoria Miller. They had some children, but all of them died.

Burwell married Boda Vickers, daughter of James Vickers. They had two boys, Roy and Virgil. Roy is a farmer and Virgil taught some, farmed some, and is now a carpenter. He has been clerk of Olive Branch church for several years. He is also a deacon in the same church.

Henry Bias first married Eliza Ann Miller. They had three children, but they were mentioned in connection with the Millers. Lewis Bias married Sarah Ball, daughter of Rufus Ball. They had three boys and two girls. One boy and one girl are dead. Sylvester married Lyda Mitchell, daughter of Horton Mitchell. Edith married Melvin Miller. They have no children. Greene Bias married Vivian Miller, daughter of Joseph Miller. They had three boys and one girl, Vivian. Their boys were Berthel, Hurstle and Birchie. Calvin Bias married Myrta Miller, a daughter of Augustus, jr., and they moved to Putnam county. Sarah Bias married Caperton Miller, son of Dryden. They were mentioned in connection with Dryden Miller's family.

Eliza Bias married Van Miller. They had one child, Van Buren Miller. Van died of typhoid fever and she married Dr. D. F. Pauley. They were the parents of Gracie, Thelma, Clarence and David Pauley. They live at Jeffrey where Dr. Pauley has practiced for many long years.

Mary Bias first married Walter Hager, son of Shug Hager, and later she married Caperton Wright, who died in the Madison hospital in 1951. Grover Bias was never married. He has made his home with his brother, Burwell, for many years.

Henry Bias married Alice Billups, daughter of N. B. Billups, for his second wife. They had two boys and two girls: Clifford, Zerna, Ina and Estelle. Clifford married a girl in Georgia. They live in Charleston. Ina died when she was small. Zerna is married and Estelle married an Elkins. They live on Hewett and she teaches school.

Barkers

According to Ragland's History of Logan County Joseph Barker came from Montgomery county, Va., and settled on the Garrett Fork of Big Creek where Columbus Pauley lived later. This farm is referred to sometimes yet as the Old Joe Barker farm. According to some reports his wife's name was Jane. Joe and Jane started out to people Logan and later Boone counties with Barkers. They didn't have such a large family, but some of the later families were large.

They were the parents of four sons and one daughter. Of his sons John A. moved to Big Coal river and settled at Peytona. William married Dorcas Workman, daughter of Joseph Workman and granddaughter of James Workman, who was the first settler of Logan at court house. Ben married a Miss Fry and Anderson married a daughter of James Ferrell of Big Creek. Joe Barker's daughter married Noah Haner.

Ben Barker settled in the head of Big Ugly and reared a large family of seven boys and three girls: Leff, Joe, George, John, Press, Will, Jim, Nan; and two daughters who married Toneys.

Leff married a daughter of Fulton Ferrell and after her death he married Cora Lake, daughter of Chris Lake. They lived in Logan county. Joe Barker married Jane Mitchell, daughter of Sylvester Mitchell and granddaughter of Rev. Joshua Mitchell. They reared a large family and lived on a part of the Ben Barker farm until their death. Their children were Leff, Wirt, Andrew, Howard, Lon, Ocie and Frank.

George Barker married a daughter of Joseph Miller. They had three boys and three girls. John Barker married Ellen Miller, daughter of Caperton Miller. They moved to Lincoln county. They had some boys who were good singers. John was a great singer and also a preacher.

Preston Barker married Rosa Miller, daughter of Floyd Miller. She was a very beautiful girl and a good singer. Possibly her children took some of their singing from her. Alba, Bill, Effie and Nola were all good singers, and Rev. E. E. Barker could do a fair job before his nervous breakdown. This family also had two preachers, Bill and Everett. Alba died in Ohio recently. He was a good man and had two fine daughters, one of whom worked in the Oak Hill Bank. Alba had been in the poultry business for years and was a member of the Fair board in Jackson county, Ohio.

Everett Barker married Jessie Skeenes, daughter of William Skeenes and sister of Rev. Allen Skeenes. They have two daughters. One is married and lives at Philippi. The other works in Charleston. Everett was ordained at Olive Branch church May 11, 1919. He has pastored churches in Lincoln, Putnam and Boone counties, and is pastor of Wharton Baptist church, one of the largest in Coal River Baptist association.

Will Barker married Laura Miller, daughter of Perry Miller. They settled in the head of Big Ugly and reared a large family. Will worked at the carpenter trade for years and was a very swift hand. They had three daughters: Leona who married Price Young and lives at Beckley. Arizona has been mentioned in connection with the Hatfields. Will had several boys. Edwin is well read in the Bible, sound in doctrine, and a strong supporter of the faith. Omer married a daughter of Lloyd Linville. He works for a gas company. Jim Barker moved to Lincoln county and at present lives near New Bethel church at Spurlocksville. One daughter, Nan, married Elihu Miller. She is probably staying with some of her children on Big Ugly. She was the mother of Hubert Hill's wife. Two of Ben Barker's children married Tonys and lived in Lincoln county.

Crofts

The Crofts were from Virginia. Pet Croft and Kelly Croft were full brothers. Sidney and Cecil Croft were full brothers. Sid and Cecil were half brothers to Pet and Kelly.

Pet Croft ran a tannery and a store in Madison for many years. They had four children: two daughters and two sons. The daughters taught school. One son died early in life. Willie, the other son, ran a store for some time after his father died. He has been dead for several years.

Kelly was a cripple. He was superintendent of Boone county schools for one term and taught Art in the Charleston schools for a long time. He died in Virginia.

Sid Croft was a prominent citizen at Madison and when the Madison National Bank was established, he was its first cashier. He left Madison several years ago.

Cecil, the only one now living, is still at Madison. He was cashier of the Madison bank for a time after Sid moved away and was later made a vice president. He has been interested in the gas business for several years and from a business standpoint, I suppose he was the most successful of any of the family.

Chamberses

Lick Creek of Little Coal river was their stamping ground and at one time they owned the bigger part of it. Fred Chambers was the first one on the Creek. He reared one boy, Sylvester, who married Elizabeth Wheeler. Their children were Jacob, Jim, Fred, Edward, John, Elwood, Sylvester, Bettie and Belle.

Jacob Chambers married a Stollings. Their children included Lottie, who married Doc Smith and lived on Camp Creek. O. C. married a Hunter. He was with the Boone County Bank for years and has worked in the Boone National Bank ever since it has gone by that name. They have two children, a son and a daughter. The son, Livingston, is an instructor at the U. S. Naval academy at Annapolis, Md. He is a co-author of a mathmatics textbook used by West Virginia University.

Albert Chambers married Ella Mabel Hopkins. One daughter, Dora Jo, married Fred Byrnside. He has been in the submarine division of the U. S. Navy for several years. He was taken prisoner in the Second World War and no one hereabout knew what had become of him. Folks, laying political differences and religious prejudices aside, we will have to confess that there have been lots of worse men in Boone county than Albert Chambers.

He related an incident to me recently that caused me to think more of him than I had ever thought before, although he had been a friend to me when I was badly in need of a friend. Albert owns some land that some sporting people would like to have. One of them offered him a fancy price for one acre and it was one-half mile out of town. Not many of us would have thought of asking what he wanted it for, but that was the question that Albert asked. And when the man said he wanted it for a beer joint, dancing hall and I suppose all the other things that go with these soul-wrecking places, Albert said, "You can't buy one inch of it at any price for that purpose.

Della died and never married. Hillory married a Vande Linde. He still lives on Lick Creek. Jim Chambers married a Jones. He was the father of five boys and one girl. Will and Ira were two of the boys.

Fred Chambers married a Tawney. They had three boys: Homer, Phil and Hugh, and at least three girls. One married Charley Mitchell, one married G. W. Mitchell, and one married Lon Holstein. Ed Chambers was the father of Huey, Carl and Edward. John Chambers was the father of five boys and one girl. Carl Chambers married Lily Miller, daughter of William Miller of Long Branch of Turtle Creek. Elwood Chambers married Brookie Bailey. They live in Danville and are the parents of J. B.

Sylvester Chambers, jr., died several years ago. Betty, daughter of Sylvester, married James Tawney. They were the parents of Dave. Belle Chambers, daughter of Sylvester Chambers, married Will Thompson. Their children were given with the Thompsons.

Coverts

The Coverts were of German origin and Pennsylvania seemed to have been their first stopping place in America. A lot of them live there yet. John Covert, grandfather of Willie, Roy, Albert and Georgia, was the first of the family to come to West Virginia. He was a school teacher, was married and had some children who lived in Pennsylvania. For some reason best known to himself, he left his wife, children and state and made his way through Logan county, probably teaching school and music along the way. On Big Coal river he met and married Sarah Cooper. They settled somewhere in Logan county where he taught school for years. John and Sarah Cooper Covert were the parents of Charles, Marion, Enoch, John, Ruth, Martha, Jane, and one boy who was drowned in a spring on Crawley's Creek. Of the boys Marion was a Church of Christ preacher, Charles was a coal miner; but most of the family lived in Logan except John and possibly some of the girls.

John Covert married Victoria Hill, daughter of George Hill, and settled on the Branch at the old Godby place on Big Creek. They were the parents of Willie, Roy, Albert and Georgia. They have been mentioned in connection with other families. They deserve a lot of credit. They had it tough when growing up, but in spite of hardships the boys all made teachers and were successful in business. Of the daughters of John and Sarah Covert, Ruth married Joseph Vickers and settled on North Fork; Martha married John Thomas and lived on North Fork; and Jane married Peter Garrett and lived on Garrett Fork.

Griffiths

The Griffiths were of the Welsh descent. Ephriam Griffith was the son of Benjamin Griffith and was born in Virginia in 1790. He married a Pauley, sister of Ephriam Pauley and settled at the mouth of Fork Creek on Big Coal river in 1815. He lived awhile on Brown's Creek, awhile at Upper Falls of Coal and then for a time on Fuqua's creek, and from there to the mouth of Peter Cave fork of Horse Creek in 1847.

The records of Olive Branch church show that he was given a letter of recommendation by the church in 1831. I do not know where he was living at that time. Ephriam Griffith had six brothers, two of whom came to this part of the country. Alec settled at what is now Griffithsville and possibly that place was named for him.

William Griffith settled on Coal river opposite the mouth of Slippery Gut. He was called Fighting Bill Griffith. He was the father of seven sons: Allen, Andy, John, Jim, Cornelius, Bill and Austin, and one daughter, Caroline who married Morris Price. Allen was the father of Ebb Griffith who lives in Dodson Fork of Horse Creek. Andy Griffith who died on Big Coal river below Elkrun fifty years ago. He had another son or two, but they moved out of the county.

Bill Griffith, son of the first Bill Griffith, lived just below the mouth of Rock Creek on the opposite side of the river. He was the father of Joe, Reldo and Hulbert and of at least two daughters. One married Andrew Ballard. They had two children, Esa and Carter. The other daughter married James Ballard. They were the parents of Ilah Ballard.

Ephriam Griffith was the father of 13 children. Uncle Addison was next to the youngest and the only one that I ever knew. He was a Baptist preacher and one of the soundest who ever grew up in these woods. He could tell the most with the fewest words of almost any preacher I ever listened to. He lived for many years on the middle Fork of Mud river not far from where Beech Grove church now stands. He married a Stevens. They were the parents of at least four girls and three sons. One daughter married A. S. Kelley, who was secretary of the state board of West Virginia Baptist convention. Another daughter married Walter Smoot. One married a Morris and lives at or near Parkersburg. The other married Freeman Linville. He was killed in a mine explosion and she later married Eward Hill. Austin Griffith, son of the first Bill Griffith of this region, lived for several years just below Woodville. Later he moved to the Middle Fork of Mud, and when oil was struck in that region he accumulated some wealth. He was the father of Norval Griffith and grandfather of Arch Griffith who represents Coal River Baptist association on the Baptist state board. He died at the home of his son, Norval, at Madison.

M. S. Griffith, though never a citizen of Boone county, I think deserves mention in this write-up, because he has conducted Fifth Sunday meetings in most of the Baptist churches in the county. He has been chairman of the Fifth Sunday committee of the Coal River association for 28 years or more and for a long time he has been the whole committee; and through thick or thin, sunshine or shadows, good times and bad, he has kept the Fifth Sunday meetings going. And it is my opinion that they have done a lot of good in this Association.

Coons

According to information furnished by reliable persons there were three boys who came from Germany. One went to Ohio, one to the Kanawha valley and one whose name was Adam came to Big Coal river and built his home about three-fourths of a mile above the mouth of Laurel. He had three daughters, Betty, Frances and one who married Enos Ferrell. He had seven boys: Andrew Jackson, Christopher, Washington, Adam, Jacob, Sylvester and Lorenzy Dow. Lorenzy Dow married Jane Jarrell and settled near where Van high school now stands. Their boys were Enoch, George, Andrew Jackson, Esau, Jacob, Anthony, and two girls, Mintie and Eliza.

Esau and Jacob were twins. Esau married a Jarr and lived on Big Coal. He had one daughter who taug school. Jacob married a Dolin and they lived on Can Creek. The Jacob Coon of Racine was the father of Mel sa Coon and Summers Coon's wife. He was a logging m and was nominated for sheriff in the nineties on t Democratic ticket. But there was a tear-up in the par and he was defeated by Jim Price. Sylvester Coon of Pe tona married a Hunter. They had two daughters w taught school. They moved to Charleston and their so Howard, was on the police force there for a long time.

Reid Coon was the son of Andrew Coon above R cine. He taught school for years, being principal of t Comfort school for a long time. He was also deputy a sessor one term. There was an Ernest Coon, posssibly grandson of Jackson Coon, one of the sons of Adam Coo He was elected to the legislature from Boone county the Republican ticket. He studied law, moved to Charle ton, and died there.

The mother of Clifford and Clarence Coon was Hunter. Clifford was superintendent of Boone coun schools for eight years, and was principal of Whitesvil junior high school for a time, and a principal at Sherm high school one year.

Enoch Coon had four boys: Lightburn, Marshall, Ho ly and Elbert, and a girl or two. Roxy married Isaac Mitc ell. Marshall married Margaret Mitchell. Anthony Coo was the father of Golden Coon. They left Boone coun several years ago. George Coon reared about four boy Minis being one of them. Minis taught school for sever years, was deputy assessor under Jordan Edelman, an was a member of the Crook district board of educatio one term.

Some of these families spell their name Kuhn, b they are all descended from the same Adam Coon w settled three-fourths of a mile above the mouth of B Coal Laurel. Adam was among the earliest settlers in th part of Boone county.

Cummingses

Bill Cummings is said to have been the first settler on Turtle Creek. He came from Monroe county some time prior to 1810. He bought the Hord Survey which contained 2,000 acres of land the most of which lay on Turtle Creek. He built a log house near where C. W. Billups' house now stands and lived there for a time and moved up to the mouth of Mud Fork. He was the father of five boys if Joe Cummings was one and Sig Olafson says he was. The others were Robert, John "Jack" St. Clair, and Adam. He was the father of seven girls also.

Rob married Rhoda Miller, daughter of Fork John. Jack married an Adkins first and Lucinda Walls after his first wife died, St. Clair married Nancy Mitchell, daughter of Rev. Joshua Mitchell. He was supposed to have been killed in the Civil war. Adam moved down on Mud river just below where Bethel church now stands. A number of his children were charter members of Bethel church.

Jack or John Cummings was the father of Gordon, Driden, Margaret and Luana by his first wife and Mahala, Chloe, Amanda, Belle, Rass, Newton and Hamilton by his last wife.

Robert was the father of Hansford, Gilbert, Paris, Frances, Nancy, Louise, Leota, Sarah, Rhoda Ann and Jo Ann. Bill's daughters were: Betsy who married Anderson Adkins; Chloe, wife of Bill Adkins; Amanda who married Peter Miller; Cynthia who married a McComas; Adaline, wife of Addison Paine; and Nancy and Polly who were wedded to Spurlocks.

There was a Charley Cummings who married Sarah Mitchell a sister of Rev. James Mitchell. They were charter members of Olive Branch church and he was licensed to preach in December, 1824. He must have lived on Turtle Creek at that time. It could have been that he lived about where Hillard Billups now lives as there were signs indicating that there had been a house there many years ago. He disappeared and no one seems to know what became of him. He may have gone back to Monroe county. Practically all of the Cummingses have left Turtle Creek, but several families on the Creek are related to them.

Dosses

The Dosses were of Irish descent. The first ones ca to America to settle probably in North Carolina. Fr there they drifted into Virginia and then into what is n West Virginia. The first one to settle in Boone county w James Doss who settled on Pond Fork about 1855. He rea ed five sons: Hawk, Dave, George, Ned, Charles and Ma tin. The last named was a half-brother of the others.

In Civil War time their home was raided by a band Yanks who were searching for George Doss who was pro ably a confederate soldier. They demanded them to t where he was and when they refused, they set fire to t house and burned all their buildings except a shuck p built of rails. One of the women was in bed with the mea les. She was carried to the shuck pen while this was ha pening. George Doss meanwhile was hid in the brush n far from the house trying to get his old flint lock gun fire. But his powder was wet and it wouldn't burn, so t Yanks got away unharmed.

Hawk and Dave Doss settled on Jack's Branch. Haw Doss was the father of Willie Doss who is deputy sheri of Boone county and a Church of Christ preacher. Will has a son who is principal of Van high school.

Dave Doss married Mary Nelson and raised a larg family. His sons were Buck, Tebe, Jim and Brad. The were a host of girls, but this writer does not know the names. About the time that James Doss settled on Por Fork, Philip Doss, possibly a brother of James, settled Rock Creek and became progenitor of the Dosses in th section. They are supposed to be all Democrats.

Dolins

If we were to go into detail and write anything li an understandable history of the Dolins in Boone coun we would likely be writing when flowers began to bloo and the birds to chirp and build their nests, but we w have to wind up this work as soon as possible and get ba across the river, so we will have to consider them as o big family.. The first one family was Judy and her s Jackey who settled where Ira Dolin now lives, about 179 It has been stated that Isaac Barker who settled near t mouth of White Oak in Peytona district in 1798 was t first in the county, but the Dolin settlement on Ca Creek was about the same time.

Jackey Dolin married a sister of Isaac Barker. Their children were William, Jim, Jackson, Hiram, John, Polly who married a Price, Lavina who married a Pauley and Sally who married an Alford.

John Dolin, son of Jacky Dolin, moved to Rock Creek and was the father of Jack, Hiram, Venila, Mary and Martha. Mary married a Perdue and Martha married Lewis Ellis. Hiram married a daughter of Dan Elkins. They were the parents of Delmer, Noah, Halley, Carrie who married Dan Gunnoe, one who married George K. Miller, one who married Marion Cabell and a daughter who married Hallie Hopkins.

Among the Rock Creek Dolins were Perry, Ed, Emanuel, Robert and several others. Perry was the son of Robert. Some of these Dolins have been connected with the Boy Scout work and have had a lot to do with building character among the boys of Rock Creek. Perry Dolin has held important positions with the government.

Some of the Dolins reared large families. Peter Dolin raised 16 children. Among them was Jim Dolin, the father of Henry Dolin. George Dolin is said to have reared 26 children. He was married twice. William Dolin was the father of William, jr., Julia, Michael, Mary, Floyd, Ira, Ollie and Sally. Julia married Rob Woodrum, W. J. married Euhamsia Owens. Mary married Joe Dolin, Floyd married Itura Dolin, Ira married Maudie Mullins, Ollie married Virginia Woodrum, Sally married Homer Moore.

Ira and Maudie were the parents of two boys and one girl: Ira, jr., Richard Ford and Eliza B. Ira, jr., married Mary Ann Roberts and they have two children, Dennis and Ira Eugene. He had one girl, Patricia Ann, by a second wife. Richard Ford married Myrna McComas, and they have a boy, Richard Wayne.

Eliza B. married Harrison McGuire and they have one boy, Harrison Eugene.

Edgar Dolin married a Dolin. He was the father of three boys—Gilbert who died recently of a heart attack, and Virgil and Billy who are still living. Edgar taught school several years and drove a school bus seven years. He is now delivering mail from Ridgeview to Julian.

Ira Dolin taught school 43 years. Maudie has taught about 40 years. William Dolin, Ira's father, was a member of Scott district board of education for 44 years in succession. W. J. Dolin's children were Edgar, Ramon, Carl, Jas. F., Martha, Ilma, Clara, Elva, Lelia, Alice and Sally.

Echolses

The Echolses were from Giles county, Va. George Echols was the first to come to Boone county. He settled on Rock Creek at what is still known as the George Echols place near the home of the late Bud Echols. He raised a family of four boys and two girls: William, L. F., Bud, Len, G. H. "Son," Virginia and Anne. William and Bud lived and died on the old farm. They both had children who taught. Richard Echols married Reble McKinney, daughter of Walter McKinney of Turtle Creek. They have been teaching at the Rock Creek school for 14 years in succession.

Len Echols taught for a number of years, studied law, and moved to Mason county. He was elected prosecuting attorney there, came back to Charleston and was appointed postmaster there. At one time he represented this district in Congress for one or two terms.

G. H. "Son" Echols was in the mercantile business when he died. He built the house where the Copley grocery now is in Danville. Virginia Echols married George Vande Linde, who died comparatively young. Annie Echols married Johnny Greene.

Halls

In the late 1880's, two brothers, William and George Hall, moved from Pike county, Kentucky, and located about five miles from the head of Mud river. William Hall had purchased a farm of several acres from Jackson Mullins. This farm had been known as the Winnie Hager place before Mullins bought it.

Abel Caudill, who had married a daughter of William Hall, settled on Stanley, a mile or more from its mouth; and Emanuel, a son of William Hall, settled near the mouth of the creek.

George Hall at first rented a farm just above the mouth of Lukey and later purchased land on Ballard's Fork. They were a hard-working people, but didn't remain on Mud river many years. They sold out there and moved to Spruce river just above Sixmile; and later William, George and a part of their families moved back to Kentucky.

W. W. Hall, son of George Hall, remained in Boone county for several years and taught school. He was county superintendent and was principal of Scott high school for a number of years. He later moved back to Kentucky. Only of George Hall's children remained in Boone county —former state Senator Alney Hall of Ramage.

William Hall married Nancy Osborne, and they were the parents of several children: Emanuel, who was the father of Alvin, Allison, Cicero, John and Carrie. Alvin and Cicero were dentists. Cicero moved to Ohio and died there. Alvin died at Madison in 1951. Emanuel died at Uneeda two or three years ago.

Melvin married Minnie Allen, daughter of James Allen. They were the parents of three boys and five girls: Basil, Bert, Ray, Bessie, Vonda, Nellie, Marie and Ruth.

Basil married Roxie Smith. They both teach school. Bert married Ruby Hill, daughter of George Hill of Sixmile. They live in Colorado.

Ray married Juanita Eades. He works in the county clerk's office. Bessie married Bill Duty; Vonda married Chilt Cook; Nellie married Lennie Purdue; Marie married Avrial Cook; and Ruth married Cecil Higginbotham.

Melvin

William's brother, George Hall, married a daughter of James Allen. They were the parents of two boys and two girls: Aubrey married Ruby Greene. K. K. Hall is their son; he is a young attorney and a candidate for judge of the Boone - Lincoln judicial district. Archie Hall married Pearl Ball, daughter of Park Ball. He is game warden for Boone county. Eva Hall married Fallie Pauley. Nettie married James Hager.

Bee Hall married an Estep and moved back to Kentucky and died there. Rosa Hall married Abel Caudill and came to Mud river with the Halls. They were the parents of Martisha, Myra, Willard, William and Matthew.

One daughter of William Hall married an Anderson. She was the mother of Oliver and George Anderson. Sylvania married a Casebolt. They had one son, Grover, who returned to Kentucky. After her first husband's death, she married P. K. Miller. They had three children: Earl, Pearl and Nancy. Earl was a member of the county board of education one term, deputy sheriff two terms and has a floral shop in Madison now. Pearl married Wilse Steward. After his death she married Rev. Chambers, and they live at Clothier. Nancy married Nick Craddock. They live in Huntington..

Sally Hall married Burwell Miller. They were the parents of Dana Miller, who has worked for the state on the roads for many years. He is a good road builder. Dewey Miller moved to Ohio. He is a stock farmer in Jackson county, Ohio, and married Erna, daughter of W. W. Nelson. Murlie married W. W. Vande Linde. They live at Griffithsville in Lincoln county.

Dallas married a Moore. He lives on the old home place of Augustus Miller and works for Ownes gas company. The other children of Burwell and Sally were Roscoe, Ray and Della, but they are included in our Miller records. Cathalena, Murba and Nora went back to Kentucky, but Murba and Nora returned to Boone. Nora resides with her sister, Sally, and Murba with her brother, George, at Ramage.

Hagers

The Hagers were of German descent. The first ones to come to America probably settled in Pennsylvania according to reliable information. Three brothers, Johannes, Jacob and George, landed in Philadelphia September 30, 1702. They and their children soon spread into adjoining states of New Jersey and Maryland.

Jonathan Hager, the reputed founder of Hagerstown, Maryland, landed in this country on September 1, 1736. The next to come was Philip Hager who landed at Philadelphia September 19, 1749. This Philip Hager died in Bucks county, Pa., but he had a son Philip and a grandson Philip. Soon after 1790 the grandson, together with Kilian Hager and a lot of other relatives, moved to Tazewell county, Va. Some of the Hagers remained there, but at about 1807 Philip and his family moved to Guyandotte river in West Virginia. The following year he acquired land near the mouth of Crawley, but he did not remain there long.

Two land speculators, William Dingess and David French, patented two tracts of land containing about 1230 acres and including most of the bottom land from near the mouth of Low Gap to Sharples. They sold this acreage to Philip Hager. He moved to it soon after, settling in the big bottom just above Powell creek which was called Philip's branch for a long time afterward. Philip Hager had married Katherine Vanatter, daughter of John Vanatter. There is a little mix-up in regard to the sons of Philip Hager who came to Spruce with him. Ragland said there were four: James, who married a Miss Pauley; Andrew, who married a daughter of Jo Barker; John, who married a Miss Miller, and Rev. Ben, who married a Miss Brooks. According to this account, Rev. Ben was the father of L. D., Floyd and Burwell Hager. This would connect the Hewett Hagers with the first Hager family on Spruce. Also it would make this John the major, Jack or John Hager who married Betsy Miller, daughter of Col. John Miller; and would make this John and Betsy the grandparents of Senator Philip Hager of Hamlin. If this be true, it connects two branches of the Hagers with the first family very nicely; but if it is not true, I cannot find the connecting link. This leaves the Big Creek and Six Mile Hagers to connect or leave unconnected.

Andrew Hager, son of the first Philip, was said to have moved to Big Creek, but, unless he had a double name, I can't find anyone who knows about him in that

region. Rev. Benjamin Hager was the father of L. D. Hager, Floyd Hager and Burwell Hager. L. D. Hager was the father of John B. Hager the lawyer; Joe Hager, the school teacher; Ben Hager, the legislator; George Hager, justice of the peace; and Bud Hager.

Floyd Hager was the father of Charley Hager, the grandfather of C. D. and Clyde by his fist wife; and Doc, Dell, Bert and Ella by his second wife—all deceased but Doc (A. G.). A. G. married St. Clair Ballard's daughter, Hattie. They had two boys, Homer and Leon. Homer has been dead for several years. Leon is in business at Hamlin.

Ella married Joe Hill, son of Canterberry Hill. After his death she married Josie Hill. She had three children by her first husband and four by her second husband.

John Hager married a Cook. Ben Hager married a daughter of Jordon Nelson. George married a daughter of Gilbert Ball. He was the father of Loren (Brogue) Hager, who has been deputy assessor for 12 years. Joseph Hager married Billy Buck Bias' daughter, Spicie. U. G. (Bud) Hager married Linkie Ferrell and Mary D. Woods.

James and Michael Hager, sons of Phillip Hager, lived on Six Mile for a time. James moved to Lincoln county and still later Michael moved to Ohio.

The first of the Hagers who remained on Six Mile seems to have been Rev. Robert Hager, a Methodist preacher. But unless he was Michael's son, I can't get him connected to the Phillip Hager family. He seems to have been a prominent man. He was a member of the state constitutional convention and the first member of the house of delegates from this section. He was elected to the state senate in 1866 and again to the house of delegates in 1868.

He was the father of Allen, Montgomery, Enoch and Boy Hager. He also had some daughters, one of whom married Preston Lovejoy. Montgomery Hager married a Garrison; Enoch married a Lucas; and Boy married a Workman.

Allen Hager's children were Shug, who married a Perry, and was the father of Wallis, Walter, Albert and Alice. After Shug Hager died, his widow married Judge John Bailey. They were the parents of four daughters: Boutie, Brookie, Della and Myrtle.

Boutie married Sidney Hatfield. She has taught in the Danville school for several years. Brookie married Elwood Chambers. They live in Danville. Della married Frank Stone of Huntington. Myrtle married Blaine Knabb.

Gill, son of Al Hager, moved to Ohio.

Al Hager had one boy called Son, one called Brooks, and another, Golden. The last named lived on Guyan river near the mouth of Big Creek.

Of Montgomery Hager's children: Joe died of measles; Solie has been dead several years; Dude (O. S.) died last year; Edgar married Mary Estil Sanders and lives at the old home on Six Mile. I don't know what became of Hayes Hager; "Gum" had two and maybe three daughters: one married Clay Workman; one Charley Workman and possibly Al Perry's wife was one.

Enoch Hager's children were: Robert who married a Workman first (moved to Ohio and someone killed him there); Henry; Doc who married a Ball; Gore, who married Nettie Hall; Vena who married Ben Ball; Minnie who married a Bennett; Ada who married Robert Parker; Lena Jane who married Ed Ballard who was killed, then married Lanta Webb who died and later B. V. Hill; Boy Hager moved to Lincoln county.

I have been unable to connect the Big Creek Hagers with the Phillip Hager family that settled on Spruce above Powell Creek.

Sigfus Olafson says that the first Phillip Hager who settled on Spruce brought at least three sons, all married, with him and he gives their names as James, Michael and Phillip, jr., and that Phillip. jr., had a son Andrew who settled on Big Creek. This seems reasonable as the sons of Phillip, jr., went with the South in the War and the Big Creek Hagers were strong Democrats and the Six Mile Hagers were Republicans. He also makes Major Jack a brother to Andrew.

Henry Clay Ragland who wrote a history of Logan county in 1896 says Phillip brought four sons with him to Spruce and gives their names as James, Andrew, John and Rev. Ben. He doesn't say anything about any Michael. Olafson makes Andrew and Major Jack grandsons of Phillip and Ragland makes them sons. I don't know which is right.

Ed Hager's father's name was Jackson; and Albert Covert who grew up on Big Creek, says that Boyd Hager was the father of Byron, Ballard and Henley. In that case Jackson and Boyd Hager were brothers.

Jackson Hager was the father of one boy and three daughters.

Edward Hager was elected assesor two terms with an interval between. The first time he beat John Ballard only

one vote in the primary for the nomination. Edward had one boy, Thomas, who moved to Huntington.

Francis Pauley married Elizabeth Hager; Columbus Pauley married Martha Hager and James Stollings married Sarah. Byron Hager married a Baldwin. They reared several children.

Ballard Hager had at least two boys: one marrying Ed Walker's daughter of McCorkle; Henley Hager married a Drake. They had two or three girls who taught school.

Leona Hager married Jim McComas. They moved to Huntington.

Hills

A widow Hill and three sons, Jacob, George and Joe, came to the Coal river valley early in the nineteenth century and settled, some say, on the east side of the river below Alum Creek. I do not know whether this is right or not, but it was somewhere on Coal river.

The descendents of Jacob Hill, who married Sarah Thomas, were: Morris, born September 7, 1807; Nelson, born March 27, 1809; Lorenzo Dow, born March 30, 1811; Eliza, born May 20, 1813; Jane, born July 30, 1815; Sarah, born October 24, 1817; Bradford, born November 14, 1819; James, born April 30, 1822; Caroline, born August 22, 1824; Harrison, born September 8, 1826; Hansford, born August 27, 1829.

James married a Godby and lived in the head of Six Mile. He reared two sons: George and Hansford. George married a Ballard and raised the following children: Arthur, now dead; B. V., who works for Hope Gas Company; Roy and Jesse, who operate a grocery store in Madison; Hassel, who lives at the old home and Adlai, who works in Hill's Grocery, Madison.

He also raised three daughters: Georgia, Ruby and Oro. Georgia married E. J. Edleburn; Ruby married Bert Hall; Ora and Hassel never married.

Descendents of George Hill, one of the first three, were John, Wash, Gordon, Lewis, Roland, W. H., Sarah Jane and Julia Hill.

Gordon Hill's family included Martha who married a Chandler; Adaline, who married a Smith; Sarah, who married a Robinson; Jane, who married a Dunlap; Melvina, who married a Hall; Retta, who married Henry Hill; Isaiah (Buck), who married a Dunlap; Floyd, who married a Smith; and Harry, who married a Pauley.

Isaiah's children were: W. D., who married a Egnor and Breedlove; Gordon, who married a Cummings; Laura, who married a Hill; Rosa, who married a Hager; Roxy, who married a Goode; Henry, who married a Meadows; Emmer, who married a Miller; Julia, who married a Sheets; and Frank, who married a Egnor.

W. D. Hill's children are: Aubrey, now dead; Seibert, who married a Kay; and Guynith, who married a Alberts.

Joe Hill, also one of first three Hill families. His daughter, Julia, married Henry H. Hopkins. They lived at the mouth of Hopkins Branch.

His sons were: Canterberry, Henry, Andy and Ben. Canterberry's sons were Joe, Sol, and Doc by his first wife. He later married Emily Roberts and raised a large family but I don't know their names. Henry's sons were: Robert, Julian, Little Henry, John and Black-eyed Joe. Robert was the father of George and grandfather of Cecil; and Julian married a Griffith, was the father of Howard, Little Julian, Essie, Nancy, Carrie and Dote. Essie married M. A. Byrnside; Nancy married Ewell T. Price; Carrie married Henry Walker; and Dote married O. L. Stewart. They moved to Alabama. Howard and Little Julian both married McClure sisters. Little Henry was the father of Del who works in the Boone National Bank. He has two daughters: Dorothy and Elizabeth.

John married a daughter of Bill Thompson. They had one son who died in World War I, and one or two others. One's name was Sam. They had two or three daughters. They moved to Ohio. Black-eyed Joe married Mary Hill, daughter of Ben Hill.

Andy's sons were Rubie, Dave, Joe and Tom.

Ben Hill's sons were Pinhook, John and Lewis. His daughter Carrie married J. A. Alley and one married Bee Stollings.

Jackson Hill, who lived at what was the Bee Stolling place later, was the father of George, Dan, Jake, Charles and Jim Hill—but I don't know who Jackson's father was. There was a George Hill who lived about Julian but I don't know where he belonged.

George, son of Jackson Hill, married Susan Godby, daughter of Obadiah Godby, and settled on Big Creek. They were the parents of Obed, Ira, George, Hubert, Victoria and Mary.

Obed married Cordelia Lake, daughter of Chris Lake. They settled on Big Ugly and were the parents of Donna, Myrtle, Jim, Herchel, George, Mattie, Verna, Nora, Ellsworth, Julian and one or two other girls. Donna married Cleve Justice and lives at Nellis; Myrtis was run over by a train and torn to pieces. Jim married Jersey Adkins. Herchel married Zema Adkins first and later a daughter of Vester Adkins. He's been dead several years. Mattie lives at Chapmanville. Verna married Tol Pauley and lives on Turtle Creek. George married a daughter of Jeff Duty. He was killed in a wreck. Julian lives in Logan. I don't know about the others. Obed is still alive but is up in eighty.

Ira first married a Drake and later Ella Nelson, widow of E. S. Nelson. Her maiden name was Griffith. Ira has no children.

George married Eliza Ann Chapman. They had no children.

Hubert married Julia Miller, daughter of Elihu Miller. They raised three or four children. They have one son Basil, married to Fay Ball—who have three boys and live on a farm at Vinton, Ohio.

Victoria Hill married John Covert. They have been mentioned in connection with the Coverts.

Mary Hill married Albert Miller who became a Holiness preacher. They are both dead.

Hatfields

Most of the Hatfields in Boone county were desended from John Henderson and Sarah Ann Ferrell Hatfield. They were orginally from Kentucky but moved to the mouth of Cow Creek on Pond Fork of Coal river just befor the Civil War. Their children were Smyth, James H., John L., L. D., A. J., T. C., and Sarah Jane, who died when she was a small girl.

Smith married Rosa Barker. They reared one boy and four girls.

Sidney Hatfield married Boutie Bailey. They had one boy, Morris. Sidney worked for a power company for many years and his wife still teaches in the Danville school. Their son, Morris, lives in South Charleston and works for the Cunningham Mortuary.

Minnie Ethel Hatfield married Charlie Greenleaf. He was a traveling salesman. They had two boys, Sidney and Clarence. They live in Charleston.

Fannie Pearl Hatfield married Elmer Nelson. They are the parents of one boy and four girls: Marvin, Edith, Mary Rose, Jewell and Ruth. They are mentioned in connection with the Nelsons.

Ada May Hatfield married Othar Bostic. They have a son Stanley and live in Charleston.

Garnette Rose Hatfield married Charles Garnette. They live in Charleston. She teaches school at Rumble in Boone county. He works as shipping clerk for Butter-Krust Bakery.

James H. Hatfield married Mary Hopkins. He was accidentally killed while hunting. They had two boys, James and Roy, who went to Texas. Roy was struck by a car and killed. James lives in Texas.

Tolbert Hatfield married Hannah Harless. They had three children: John L., Pauline and Lottie. Lottie married Earl Curry and lives in Madison. They have six children.

A. J. Hatfield married a Browning. They had one child, Marvin, who married Arizona Barker. They had two children and he died.

Dr. A. J. Hatfield married Zetti Hatfield for his second wife. They had four children. Pearl, Maymie, Audre and Lew. Pearl was deputy sheriff four years and taught school for years. She married Lyle Carter. They

have one boy, Lyle, jr. He is in the air division of the army and has flown his one hundredth mission. He married Beulah Hill and lives in South Charleston. Maymie married Clarence Thompson. Audre married John Moore. Lew married a daughter of Elmer Hager, Ina.

John L. Hatfield married Viola Barker. They moved to the state of Washington. He died a few years ago.

Joneses

Most Joneses in Boone county are descended from one man, Martin Luther Jones, born in Ashabula county, Ohio. When he was a small boy and after his mother had died, his father moved to Cabell county and settled on Seven Mile Creek not too far from Barboursville, W. Va. They remained there for a few years, his father and sister teaching.

Later they moved to Logan county, W. Va., and from there to Wyoming county where his father died.

M. L. began teaching very young. He taught several years in Logan county, coming into Boone in 1899.

He lived at Bald Knob for several years, teaching, selling goods, logging and farming. He married Emily Johnson in Lincoln county. They were the parents of 12 children. 10 of whom are still living.

Luther R. married Ella Nelson, daughter of Sylvester Nelson. They were the parents of four boys: Kay, Ferris, Coy and Noyes. Noyes died at the age of two.

Luther was elected to the state senate twice and could have been elected again if he had been a little quieter.

He helped pass the consumer's sale tax law which saved the school system.

He has been editor of the Coal Valley News since it was founded and usually says what he thinks.

He taught school for several years before he took over the job of editing the News.

Luther was elected to the House of Delegates as a Republican in 1916; to the senate as a Democrat in 1932. He broke with the Republicans in 1925 but dosen't always agree with the Democrats.

All the Joneses have heads of their own which saves them of the trouble of borrowing.

Virgil Jones was a good friend of this writer when he was in need of a friend. I have always appreciated it. I taught in Boone county when Virgil was superintendent.

I didn't intend to write much about the Jones as they have a family history of their own.

Virgil married Clarice Price. They have three daughters and two sons. One of the sons is a doctor at the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta, Ga. I didn't mean to say he was in the pen but was employed by the government.

Virgil has taught several years, and was superintendent four years and has his doctor's degree from Ohio State.

Heber Jones married Fairlena Price. He was killed in a wreck. Norman Jones married Nettie Lewis. He ownes and operates the Down Town Grocery and sells as good a quality of meat as can be found in Madison. They have four sons: Maurice, Joel, Norman and Martin.

Elmer Jones married Esther, a daughter of Joseph Jarrell. They have a poultry farm in North Carolina, and are parents of Karin, Joe and David.

One daughter of M. L., Myrl, married Prince Dickens; Gracie married Willie Jarrell; Esther married Frank Linville; Hazel married Del Nelson, a sister of Ella. They live in California. He teaches there. Neva married a Sears in New York but they separated and she lives in California. Iril married Howard Jarrell, brother of Elmer's wife.

Hopkins

Stephen Hopkins was a member of the continental congress and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was born in England, came to America with two cousins before the Revolution.

One of the cousins was killed in the Revolutionary War. The other cousin married and was the father of five sons and two daughters.

The sons were William, Henry Sheldon, John, Lawrence and Asa. William was that father of two sons who were never married. Henry Sheldon was a physician and the first of the Hopkinses to settle in Boone couney. He settled on Big Coal Laurel, and the Hopkins Fork took its name from him.

He was married twice. His first wife was an Edwards. His second wife was Elizabeth Jackson, daughter of Curtis A. Jackson, second cousin to Andrew Jackson.

Dr. Henry Hopkins was the father of three sons and three daughters by his second wife: William Curtis, Asa Lawson, who died in his 22nd year, and Mandevilie J., who once lived on Spruce river near where Hadalton now is. He had one son, Mandeville, who married a daughter of D. J. Smoot and moved to Ohio.

He had at Least three daughters: one married to John Kenninger, one to Andy McNeely, and one to Henry Hopkins, son of Henry H. Hopkins.

Henry Sheldon had one son by his first wife. Henry H. Hopkins, who married Julia, daughter of Joseph Hill, was the fother of Asa; Joseph Mandeville of Danville; Henry who lived at the Mouth of Rock Creek; John W., a physician of Fayetteville; Charles, a physician of Ceredo; and George, who was never married; Sallie who married James Price; and Mary E. who married Dr. H. L. Carter. She is still alive but is very old.

J. M. Hopkins married Dora E., daughter of Joel Stollings of Madison. They were the parents of the following children: Theron, who married a Thompson; Martha, who married Dr. Buskirk; and, after his death, married H. R. Izard who was cashier of the Danville Bank for many years; Julia, who died before she was grown; C. C. who married Mattie Fulton, daughter of L. Fulton, and after her death, married Mrs. Ruby Zinn. C. C. Hopkins was sheriff one term, assessor one term and is president of the Bank of Danville. Ella Mabel married A. B. Chambers, a prominent merchant of Danville. Eva Georgia married Roy Smith.

Luther married Fanny Hunter. Joseph H. married Virginia Garnett; Sheldon Lee never married. Luther and Lee are dead.

McKinneys

Oscar McKinney was the first of that family to settle in what is now Boone county. He married a Walker in Wyoming county.

He lived for a time where Ethel Wilcox now lives and later on at the hill at the head of the Long Branch. He was a Confederate soldier in the Civil War.

They reared 4 boys and three girls: John married Elizabeth, daughter of Col. E. S. Miller. They had two boys and two girls: Walter, John, Ed, Cora, and Sarah.

Walter married Cordelia Mullins, daughter of John "Bad" Mullins. They had the following children: Vessie married Howard Bias; Icy married Dana Miller; Brookie married John Waltenberger; Jesse married Ina Sanders, Clyde married Christine, daughter of Henry Bell; Howard married a daughter of Rebecca Bias, Reble married Richard Echols. They both teach. Walter has a very fine family of children.

James McKinney married a Ella Barrett. They had six boys and two girls: a boy and girl died in infancy; Jurdy married Mary McCallister; Bob married Lily Miller, daughter of Silas and Elizabeth Miller; Joe married Lula Miller, daughter of Jacob and Chloe Miller; Elbert married Mandy, a daughter of George W. and Sarah Roberts. One of their daughters, Bessie, married Ferris Jones. Another daughter, Alwilda, married Sebert Hill. A son, Kessler, is in the air force. Olbert had a twin brother, Everett, who married Martha Crutchfield. James McKinney's daughter married Hugh Chambers and after his death, married Hanse Stowers.

B. O. McKinney married Mary Miller, daughter of Daniel Miller, son of William, sr. They moved to Charleston. Oscar McKinney married Martha Miller, sister of Mary.

Nan or Nancy McKinney married William Miller, son of Daniel, jr. They raised a large family, including: Phonso, Edward, Bert, Herod and Ebber and Lilly who married Carl Chambers.

Lou, sister of Oscar McKinney, married Bill Tawney. Sarah, sister of James, married Walter Holstein and lived near Ashford on Big Coal River.

Of the daughters of John McKinney; Cora married John Barker. They had 3 children: Lon, Charley and one daughter, Effie, who married Kinder Martin. Sarah married Burwell Mullins. They were the parents of Othar Mullins who owns the Boone Motor Sales at Madison; Weddie of Huntington, Ernest of West Madison and Letta Mae who married Earl Songer. She has been teaching in Danville grade school.

Miller

There is a controversy in regard to the Millers of Boone county as to relationship and time of coming.

Henry Clay Ragland wrote a history of Logan county in 1896. In that history, he says that Charles William Jerome—who was at the head of the Guyandotte Colonization Society,, and formed a company to colonize the land of James Swan—came to Big Creek with several families of German descent. Among them were five Miller brothers: John, George, Daniel, Moses, and Jacob, and George Sizemore, but, after two or three years, they found survey. So the colony broke up and scattered. Ragland says that while they lived there, John died and was buried they were not on the Swan survey but on the J. J. Benoist there, but he must have been mistaken for we have reliable information that the same John Miller and his sons, Jothathan and Jacob, were charter members of Olive Branch church. It is this writer's opinion that it was George who died there.

Sigfus Olafson, who denies this story, says that there was a George Miller who moved to Big Creek and died there.

Ragland said that Daniel and George moved to Turtle Creek, Jacob to Rock Creek and Mose to Island Creek and later to Mud river in what is now Lincoln county.

It is true that Daniel moved to Turtle Creek, but we do not have any proof of George moving there. We do know that Mose lived for a time on Six Mile and a while on Turtle Creek. The land records show that he once owned land on Six Mile and he built a water mill on Turtle Creek where Emery Ball now owns. He moved from there to Mud River.

John spent one year on the Allen Miller hill and moved from there to Rock Creek and settled near the Bud Echol's place. If this much of the story be true, then Jacob was the one that moved to Barboursville. It is a fact that some Miller from Monroe moved to that section. Roscoe Miller and M. V. Mitchell contacted a Miller near there who said his foreparents were from Monroe and this happened not many weeks ago.

One of the questions in connection with the Millers is which ones came to Turtle Creek first. Some say Daniel; some say his son, Fork John.

Ragland says that when Daniel Miller moved to Turtle Creek from Big Creek, he found several families living on the Creek and one was his son's Fork John. If this be true, then Fork John came to Turtle Creek before his father did.

There is one fact that can not be disputed and that is that they both did live on Turtle Creek, and the Millers on the Creek and other places is a positive proof of that fact.

Daniel settled ¼ mile above the church house where Leonard Miller now lives. He married a Comer in Monroe county. They were the parents of the following children: Fork John who married Katherine Mitchell, daughter of Joshua Mitchell, sr.; William who married Betsy Mitchell, daughter of Rev James D. Mitchell; George who married Emily Bennett; Daniel who married a Miss Turley. He settled on Big Hewett above Julian. He died suddenly when they were building the first house for Olive church at Julian. He was probably the father of Joel Miller of Briar Creek, and Brad Price married one of his daughters for his second wife. Jacob, son of Daniel, married a Spurlock and settled about four miles below Griffithsville. He was the father of Henry Miller, one-time sheriff of Lincoln county and, a long time merchant of Griffithsville.

Augustus, son of Daniel, married a Miller and moved to the Kanawha Valley. Barbara, a daughter of Daniel, married Benjamin Halstead of Rock Creek; Betsy married Wash Hill anl lived on the upland, just above where the Morrisvale schoolhouse now stands.

William Ball of Turtle Creek married Lucinda, one of Betsy's daughters. St. Clair Miller married one and Will Sheets married one. They had a son named George. He was the father of Whitman, Orville and Homer Stone's wife. Rhoda Miller married Jackson Hill. They were the parents of George Hill of Big Creek, Dan Hill, Charley Hill of Lory and James Hill who never married. Nancy married Burwell Spurlock. There were two more girls. One of them married Medley Ballard.

Fork John Miller married Katherine Mitchell, daughter of Joshua Mitchell, sr., They were the parents of Daniel, James, William, Peter, Joshua, Floyd, Betsy, Polly, Rhoda and Katy.

Daniel married Agnes Mitchell, daughter of Rev. James D.; James married Matilda Phipps, daughter of Jackey Phipps; William married Dollie Ann Roberts, daughter of Sandy Roberts; Peter married Amanda Cummings, daughter of William Cummings; Joshua married Katherine Cantley; Floyd married Rachel Miller, daughter of William, sr.; Betsy married James Miller of Rock Creek, who went west; Polly married Jacob Ball; Rhoda married Rob Cummings; Katy married Griffin Stollings. They had one son, John Stollings who lived and died on

Low Gap. She later married Andy Estep. She was the mother of James Estep of Danville.

Daniel Miller, son of Fork John, was the father of Dryden William of Long Branch, Riland Butler, Esmond, Caperton, Venila and Louisa.

James, son of Fork John, was the father of Oliver, Washington and one daughter called "Sis." She married Charley Miller, son of Dollie Ann Miller. They had two daughters, Sarilda and Delilah. Sarilda married Berman Mitchell and Delilah married Doll Mitchell; Oliver married Susan, daughter of William Miller. They had several children, including Rufus, Nathaniel, Isaac, Lucy Ann, Rouhamy, America and Dorothy.

Washington married Lavina Pauley, daughter of Henry Pauley. They had three boys: Alfred, Lewis and Mandaville. Lewis married Lula Pauley and is living in West Madison. One daughter, Susanne, married Jeremiah Miller. They had two sons and nine daughters: Myrtle, Velva, Mattie, Burtes, Nola, Delphia, Clara, Sidney H., Gladys, Dollie and Alice.

William Miller, son of Fork John, was the father of six boys and five girls. Thomas married Viola Miller, daughter of Joseph Miller; Peter married Viola Adkins, daughter of Anderson Adkins; Andrew married Martha Mitchell, daughter of James Mitchell, son of Uncle Joshua; Burwell married Sally Hall, daughter of William Hall. The Halls were from Kentucky.

Emzy was never married. He died before he was grown. Mary Jane married Dryden Cummings; Katy married Calhoun Chapman; Susan married Oliver Miller; Alice married Andy Vickers; Lily or Lilian died in her youth. All of William's children raised families except the two who died early in life, but it would take a lot of paper to contain the names of all of them. Tom was the father of Wallace, Tolbert and Fanny. Wallace has some children living on a big stock farm at Waterford, Ohio. Tol has been dead for several years and Fanny lives in California.

Peter was the father of Otto, Lon, Bergil, Erastus, Maymie and Lelia.

Andrew was the father of St. Clair, Leonard, Oner, Florence, Flossie, Hattie and Claudia.

Burwell reared five boys and two girls. Dana married Icy McKinney and works for the state on the road and lives at Danville. Dewey married Ernie Nelson and moved to Ohio. Since Ernie died, he married Cora Gillum who is a very good and good-looking woman.

Dewey is counted one of the leading farmers in Jackson county. He raises white-faced cattle and belted hogs.

Murla married Watson VandeLinde, who has been twice sheriff of Lincoln county. They live at Griffithsville. She is counted one of the best women in that community.

Dallas married a Moore, I think. He lives at the old Gus Miller place on the Pennyroil Fork of Turtle Creek. He has several children—one boy in Korea. I do hope he gets home safely.

Della married Don Nelson. They have five boys and three girls. Maloy is one of the champion coon hunters of that section. Alvin sells insurance and is doing very well. Dennis is a store man somewhere. The next younger one is in the army. Junior helps his dad on the farm. Two of the girls are married; one teaches; one is in Pennsylvania; and the youngest one is at home.

Roscoe married Vinnie Mitchell, daughter of M. V. Mitchell. He is a traveling salesman at present. He is a good christian man, a deacon of Olive Branch church, a close student of the Bible and an all-round good fellow.

Ray has never married. He lives with his mother, farms some and works for Owens Gas Company.

Peter Miller, son of Fork Miller, was the father of six boys and three girls. Lorenzo married Rhoda Canterberry, daughter of Wade Canterberry; Zattoo married a Bell; Wootson married a Kessinger; Albert married Mary Hill, daughter of George Hill; Elliott married Polly Miller, daughter of Joseph Miller. They were the parents of Everett, Ernest, Arnie, Vergie and Cretie. Vergie married St. Clair Miller and was the mother of Hilbert, Grant and Lomer. Cretie married Opie Miller. Arnie married Sheva Miller, daughter of Albert S. Miller.

Floyd Miller, son of Fork John, was the father of Augustus, jr., who married Emazetta Miller, daughter of Sylvanus Miller. Victoria married Burwell S. Ballard. Margaret married Asa Canterberry. Rosa married Preston Barker. She had two boys who were Baptist preachers: Everett and Bill. Alba was a singing master, Effie and Nola were good singers.

Nettie, daughter of Floyd, married Henry Mitchell. Zettella married Edward Miller.

Dryden Miller married Mary Ann, daughter of William Miller, sr. They were the parents of the following children: Doutty, Matthew, Daniel, Caperton, jr., Malone, Joey and two girls: Agnes and Rachel. One girl died when she was small. Doutty married Pauline, a daughter of Joshua Miller. They were the parents of Wilson, Thorton, Alfred, Curtis, Katherine, Loretta and Irena. Alfred was

a teacher and trading man. He has made lots of money. Curtis taught some, traded some and logged some and is one of the best farmers in Boone county. He has accumulated some wealth. He raises Hereford cattle.

Caperton married Sarah Bias. They had one boy, Aubrey, she died and he never married again.

Malone married Willie Cummings and moved to Kanawha Two Mile.

Daniel married Meda Ball, daughter of Rufus Ball. Agnes married Dick Roberts. Rachel married Horton Mitchell. Matthew, son of Dryden Miller, married Viola Thompson and was the father of Wilson, Rathburn, Cashie, Frank, Columbus and David. One daughter married Elza Kidd and there were some more girls.

William Miller, sr., son of Deniel, sr., married Betsy Mitchell, daughter of Rev. James D. Mitchell. They were the parents of five boys and three girls: Joseph, Daniel, Augustus, Mitchell, Isaiah, Dollie, Mary Ann, and Rachel.

Joe and Daniel married Cummings, daughters of Jack or John Cummings. Daniel was a confederate soldier and was in the battle of Coal Harbor where Grant lost 10,000 men in 20 minutes.

Augustus married Julia Pauley, daughter of Ephriam Pauley of Cobbs Creek. They were the parents of two sons and five daughters. Albert married Martha Miller and they were the parents of Verna, who married Willie Covert; Watty the singing man, who married Etter Estep, daughter of George Estep—who have two boys and two girls; Lenora married Allen Skeenes, the preacher; Freeda married Herbert Eugene Hall. Both teach school. Junior and Leon married sisters, daughters of James Doss. Ethel, daughter of Albert Miller, married Ross Wilcox. They raised two children, Dollie and Harold, and one died. Ethel had a brother, Henry who died.

Dollie married Bethel Sanders. They have two children. Bettye May and Johnny Bill.

Sheva, daughter of Albert, married Arnie Miller, son of Elliott. They live in the Kanawha Valley somewhere. I don't know how many children they have, but if they are like the balance of the Millers, they have some.

Harold Wilcox, son of Ethel and Ross, married Betty Dunlap, daughter of George Dunlap of Greenview, but, as yet, they have no children.

Floyd Miller, son of Augustus married Stacie Canterberry, daughter of Asa. They have three sons: Brady Bryon, Lanta Lowell and Demmie Dannis.

Brady married Bertha Chapman. They have two children, Brady, jr., and Helen.

Lanta married Opal Mullins but they have no children. Lanta has been assistant postmaster at Madison for 20 years.

Demmie has been married twice. The first time he married Retta Price, a daughter of Jimmy Price. They had one boy, Jimmie, but for some cause or other they couldn't agree. So they were divorced and Demmie married Mrs. Belva Hager, a widow. They seem to be getting along very well.

As to Floyd, he has been everything from a hillbilly farmer to a Deputy U. S. Marshal. He has spent around 30 years in the circuit clerk's office and they say he has been a good clerk. He is deputy now under Paul Allen. I suppose the only way to get rid of him would be to sit down and wait for him to die. Then he might fool you.

Of the daughters of Augustus Miller, three of them married Nelsons, all brothers, sons of Wm. R. Nelson of Mud River. Veleria Jane married Sylvester Nelson. They were the parents of Leland Nelson, Ella Nelson who married L. R. Jones, editor of the Coal Valey News (see Jones family); Billy Nelson who was electrocuted when he was wiring the building where the Down Town Grocery now is. Billy was a good boy; Ella was a good girl.

Dell married Hazel Jones, daughter of M. L. Jones. They live in California and have three girls: Jane, Judy and Becky. He teaches and has his A. B. degree from Marshall College. Leland married Effie Epling. They are the parents of Glenn, Billy, Pauline and Emmagene.

Bettie A. the second daughter of Augustus Miller, married Floyd B. Nelson. They settled on the Bark Camp Branch of Mud River, a half mile from the public road and three miles from school, and there they stayed till he died, and to this day she would rather be there than anywhere on God's green earth. They had one boy, born dead, and they raised one boy, A. W., now living at Danville. In spite of the fact that he lived so far from school, Albert managed to get through the grades, went to Marshall, then to Broaddus, back to Marshall, then to the University of W. Va., from which he received his M. A. degress. He taught in high school at Louisa, Ky., was principal of Morrisvale Junior high one year, taught one or two years in Scott high, was principal of Van high for two or three years, was assistant superintendent for three years, and was county superintendent of Boone county schools for seven or eight years. He was considered to be one of the best qualified men in Boone county but I doubt if he ever engages in school work any more. He is in the mercantile business at Danville and is very much interested in selling and installing television sets.

He married Mona Keener. They have two nice girls: Elizabeth Jane, who is in her second year of college work at Bethany college, and Alice Marie, who is finishing the eighth grade at the Danville grade school.

Eliza Ann, daughter of Augustus Miller, married Henry Bias. They had three children: Etta who married Asa Miller and have no children. They live at Madison but, are members of the Olive Branch church and are among its strongest financial supporters. Archie Bias married and lived and died somewhere in the Kanawha Valley. Theron Bias died in infancy. Isabelle, another daughter of Gus Miller, married W. W. Nelson. They settled in the head of Mud Rived and lived there for 24 years and then moved to Jackson county, Ohio. They had three children: Augustus Bernard, who was killed by a tractor had married Myrtle Barrett, daughter of Willie Barrett; Erma Fay, who married Dewey Miller and moved to Ohio and died five years ago.

Edna Marie Nelson, another daughter, went through college, received a standard normal certificate, taught two years, married Lester Terry and quit teaching. They have two nice little girls: Patty and Judy. They operate a feed store and hatchery at McConnelsville, Ohio.

Lena, the youngest of Augustus' family, married Roy Covert. They both taught in West Virginia long enough to get a pension and Roy has taught the last five years in Florida. He has dealt in real estate and owns property in West Virginia and Florida. They have no children and reside at Okeechobee, Fla.

George Miller, son of Daniel, Sr., was the father of the following children: Sylvanus, Perry, Mandaville, Jacob, George, Melissa, and Elizabeth.

Sylvanus married Susan Pauley, daughter of Henry Pauley. They were the parents of Emmazetta, Emily, Mary, Martha, Almarine, Tilden, and Edward. Zetta married Gus Miller, son of Floyd, Sr. Emily married P. K. Miller; Mary married James Miller and later Walter Ball; Martha married Albert S. Miller; Almarine married Lily Roberts. They moved to Arkansas and she died there. Tilden, a preacher, married Flora Roberts. They had several children, including: Orin, Mallie, Haddon, Frank and John. Mae married Houston Poff; Opal married Seybert Ballard; Norma married Lloyd McWhorter; and, Ruby has married and works in Charleston.

Edward married Rachel Canterberry. They had one son, Opie. Rachel died and Edward married Tella Miller, the daughter of Floyd Miller, Sr. Perry married Matilda Hager, daughter of Henderson Hager. They had several children: Alta married Jacob Roberts; Vendetta married Albert Covert; Fairy married Noah Miller; Gertie married Jim Smarr; Madge married A. C. Griffith; and Chester, their only boy, married in Putnam county and lives near Bluefield at present.

Mandaville Miller married Alice Barker. They had two children. Wilbert went west. Letta married Charles Estep, a lawyer and former judge of circuit court of Boone, Logan and Wayne counties.

George Miller, jr., married Louarie Sheets. They had no children. Melissa Miller married James Mitchell, son of Rev. Joshua Mitchell. She was the mother of Herbert, Martha and Philip Mitchell.

Elizabeth Miller married Edwin "Ned" Mitchell, son of Joshua Mitchell. She was the mother of Ella, Millard, Walter and one girl, who died without being married. Ella married Andrew Mitchell. Jacob Miller married Chloe Miller, daughter of Peter Miller. They reared the following children: Willard, who went west and was killed in a car wreck; Nora, who died young; Eva, who never married; Lula, who married Joe McKinney; and Jesse, who married a Gundy, who died less than a year ago.

Another question of dispute in regard to the Millers is that of kinship. Sig Olafson says that Col. John Miller of Big Branch was a nephew of the first Daniel Miller on Turtle Creek.

Rufus Ball, a grandson of Col. John, and Floyd Miller, a grandson of Daniel, both said they were no relation except that Col. John and Fork John married sisters, who were daughters of Joshua Mitchell, sr.

I do not know which is correct. Ragland says Col. John was a son of Michael Miller, a German who came to America to fight for the king of England in the Revolution, but deserted and joined the American army; and, when the war was over, he stayed in this country. If this be true, the two sets would not be related unless they were all descendents of Michael Miller and I doubt if they were —though it could be possible, but their physical make-up is different. Let that be as it may. The Daniel set has undoubtedly spread the Miller name over more territory than the Col. John set has. Col. John married Elizabeth Mitchell, daughter of Joshua Mitchell, sr. They were the parents of E. S. and Ben. E.S. married Susan Mitchell, daughter of Rev. James D. Mitchell; Ben married Jane Ball, daughter of Jacob Ball. Betsy married Major Jack Hager; Katy married Joshua Mitchell; Sarah married Calvary Hatfield: Lavina married Chris Lake; Susan married Armstrong Bias; Delilah married Simeon Bias; Polly married James Vance; and Virginia married Isaac Vance,

who was killed during the Civil War and is buried on Big Branch.

The children of Col. E. S. Miller were Benton J. Miller, who married Venila Miller and were the parents of Rosena, who married Iverson Pauley; Silas who married Elizabeth Miller and were the parents of Myrta, Corbin, Lily and Clell; Patrick K. Miller who married Emily Miller and had two children: Vanonda, deceased, and Dorsey, who spent 30 years in the army and now lives in Tennessee; P. K. who married Sylvania Hall or Caseboat for his second wife. They had three children. Pearl married Wilse Stewart and after his death married a Chambers. She has no children. Earl married a Ball, daughter of Ben Ball, but they separated and he married Virginia Rippetoe. That was her maiden name.

Nancy married Nick Craddock. They live in Huntington. Mary "Polly", daughter of Col. E. S. Miller, married William Nelson. Their children have been mentioned. Elizabeth, the next daughter of E. S. Miller, married a Turley first and had two children by him: Charles and Geneva. They separated and she married John McKinney. Their children have been living with the McKinneys.

Eliza, third daughter of E. S. Miller, married Silas Billups. They were mentioned with the Billups.

Lavina, the youngest daughter of E. S. Miller, married Burwell Pauley. They reared three children: Benjamin, Dr. D. F. and Laura. Their families have already been mentioned.

Isaiah Miller, son of William, sr., married Melissa Pauley. They were the parents of Lum, Rebecca, Elizabeth Ann, Noah, Millard, Cap, Jemimia and Don. Lum married Belle Canterberry. Their children were Reedy, Rebecca, Melissa, Asa, Dewey, Rhoda, and Philip. Jemima Miller married Ed Eggers. They live in Ohio. Philip married Wilda Isner, a teacher from Clarksburg. She still teaches and he works for the state in Charleston. Dewey married Angie Sanders; Asa married Etta Bias; Reeda married Tolbert Miller and then a Ball; Rhoda married Jennings Sanders and Bill Sublett; and Malissa married Carl Bragg.

Dryden and Mary Ann Miller

McNeelys

Most of the McNeelys in these parts were the descendents of Gordon McNeely who lived for a time near the mouth of Rucker's Branch and later near where the Madison Baptist Church now stands. Possibly the home of the late Norvel Griffith stands on the site of the McNeely home.

He reared a large family of seven boys and three girls. French married Ann Ballard, daughter of Riland Ballard. Andy married Rose, daughter of Manderville Hopkins of Spruce Fork; Edgar married Maudie Epling; Dell married Maggie Kirby of Racine; G. G. married Eva Young; Ernest married Alta McComas; Charlie married Lora Adkins and had one son, Harry McNeely. When Charley died, his widow married J. C. Thompson of Madison. Susan married St. Clair Ballard. They were the parents of two daughters. Mae married Alvin Hall and Hattie married A. G. "Doc" Hager of Danville. Elizabeth married Henry Cadle of Jeffrey; Laura married Bud Lucas. They had two sons, Bernie and Ruben; and two daughters: Nellie who married Bethel Sanders and died a few years ago; and Sadie who married Bill Workman, son of Clay Workman.

Some of the McNeeleys were teamsters and engaged in the timber business. Dell, deceased, edited the Madison Recorder. Edgar was a Justice of the Peace for one or two terms. Andy was deputy sheriff for four years and was in the timber business for several years. Dell had one daughter, Sybil, who has been employed in the Madison bank for many years; another daughter, Maxine, Married C. D. Hager, the theater magnate of this county, leader of the county singing annuals and a leader in the Hager Reunions. C. D. has two daughters. Dell also had two sons: Virgil married Jessie Butcher and they have one daughter, Linda; and Ted who recently died of a heart attack.. He never married.

French, deceased, had one child that died in infancy. His daughter, Oma, married S. J. Branham.

Edgar, deceased, had one son, Sennett E., who lives at Beckley, and one daughter, Nina, employed at the Madison Grocery Company.

Andy, deceased, had four sons: Clyde, Ray, Rupert and Guy; and one daughter, who married Forrest Abbott, a druggist, now deceased; and Marie, who married Arnett Workman and lives at Sylvester.

Myerses

Len Myers was the first of the family in Boone county, and according to information furnished by his son John, he had trouble with a man back in Virginia where they lived and, according to the story, he beat up on the man with a single tree, mounted a stable horse, called up two hound dogs and headed this way. In a few days he landed at Manderville Hopkins' on Spruce above where Haddleton now stands and contracted to work for him. It so happened that Wilson Kessinger lived not far away and he had a daughter who soon attracted the attention of the man from Virginia. It wasn't very long 'til the Miss Kessinger became Mrs. Myers. They settled on Sparrs (Sparrows) Creek and reared a family of three boys and two girls: John, Joe, Albert, Martha and Bashie. Len Myers was deputy sheriff of Boone county for eight years. He did not live to be very old and Mrs. Myers and the children were left to make their own way. John married Courtney Thompson, daughter of William Thompson. They had a family of three boys: Joey, John (Hick) and Bird.

Joe Myers married Mary Hill, daughter of Bud Harvey Hill of Big Creek and have one daughter, Ora, the wife of Omer C. Vickers. Albert Myers married Jennie Cabell. They had five boys and five girls: Lemuel, George, Luther, James, Albert Edgar, Oma, Julia, Roma, Letha and Martha. Lemuel and Oma are dead. Luther married a daughter of Clay Pauley of Horse Creek. He was killed in a mine accident on Drawdy.

John Myers was elected Assessor one term, sheriff one term, was jailer for years, and is now deputy sheriff under Tilden Hendrick. Joey Myers is now serving his second six-year term on the Board of Education. Bird Myers was deputy sheriff under his father four years and was state road supervisor for Boone county under Governors Holt and Kump. Hick served with Patton's "third" in World War II.

Nathaniel Mullins was one of the earliest settlers of Logan county. He came from North Carolina. He was the father of Hiram, Wilson, Nathaniel, Jackson, Milton A., John, Harrison and Anthony. It is possible that the Mullins of upper Spruce were descendents of this family. They were said to be a fine group of citizens.

The Mullins' families of Big Creek, Mud River and Lick Creek were descended from James Mullins who lived on the North Fork of Big Creek. There was a Sol Mullins who lived in that region somewhere. I don't know whether he was James Mullins' father or brother. James was a primitive Baptist preacher. He was the father of serveral boys: James P., who lived on Harts Creek; Jackson, who lived for a long time on Mud river, about five miles from Mud Gap and then for a time at Danville where he fired the big boiler in Preston Phipps' mill. Later he moved to the old home place on the North Fork and still later he went west and never came back.

Spencer Mullins, another son of Rev. James, lived on the left fork of Mud river where Mander Mullins now lives.

John "Bad" Mullins moved from place to place, living for a time on Mud river, Big Creek, Big Ugly and for a while in Minnesota. Jackson and John "Bad" were the only ones of the sons of Rev. James who lived in Boone county. Jackson was the father of James P., Spencer, Billie, John, Granville, Little Jack, Mont, and Doc, and three girls: Coonie, Tam and Belle. They are all dead now except Mont and Doc.

Jim P. married Eliza Thomas. They were the parents of H. W. B., a noted attorney of Madison, now dead; Inklin who married a daughter of Fletch Priestley of McCorkle (a sister of E. C. Priestley of Madison); Clerk, the barber at Danville; Corbett who married a Blake and lives at Danville. He is a member of the Danville Baptist Church. He barbers at Madison and his wife is an active member of the Danville church. Jim P. had one daughter, Dollie, who married J. G. Barker. They live in Ohio.

Henry Ward Beecher Mullins married Fairy B. Harless, daughter of Lee Roy and Ann Harless, and had three sons and two daughters: Maxie, Ralph, Billy, Sadie and

Virginia Edith. H. W. B. Mullins was serving his third term as prosecuting attorney when he died. Fairy still maintains the Mullins home.

John Mullins, another son of Jackson Mullins, married Barrett Lucas. They lived on Newport Branch at Danville. They were the parents of four boys and six girls. The sons were Burwell, Jesse who was chief of police at Madison for a time and at Whitesville for a time; Willard and John, jr.

Burwell Mullins is deacon and treasurer of the Danville Baptist Church. He has been a railroader for many years and an all-round good man.

Mandie Mullins married Ira Dolin of Camp Creek. She has taught school for a long time. They have two boys and one girl. The other daughters of John Mullins were Sarah, Myrtle, Lottie, Marie and Gladys. Sarah, who married Howard Ballard, taught some; Marie was a preacher for a while.

Doc Mullins is a mechanic and lives at Danville. He has two children: Violet and Earl, both married and living in Ohio.

Another Mullins moved into Lincoln county from Kentucky sometime in the eighties. He was known as Kentucky Jack Mullins. He was the father of Mander Mullins of Bulger, Sol Mullins of St. Albans, and Alvin Mullins who died on Bear Branch some years ago. Alvin was the father of Ves Mullins, Ellis Mullins, Duran, Tom and Clint by a second marriage. "Ves" Mullins moved to Danville, Ellis to Seth, Tom and Clint to Ohio and Duran died. "Ves" Mullins' children are Irene, who married Ray Vickers; Della, who married "Red" Tamplin; Edith, who married Ralph Clark; Grace, who married Roddie Stewart and Myrtle, who married Robert White.

Kentucky Jack died several years ago of typhoid fever and his widow married Abel Caudill. One of Ves Mullins' sons, Harry, works in the Danville Hardware store and a grandson works in Nelson's store in the same town.

John "Bad" Mullins was the father of Egbert, Marion, Burwell, and three or four girls, one of whom married Walter McKinney. Marion was on the police force in Huntington for years. This Burwell Mullins has already been mentioned as the father of Other, Weddie and Lettie Mae.

Pauleys

Henry Pauley, who came from near the mouth of Coal river, was the first of the Pauleys to settle on Turtle Creek. He married McDilda and lived on the Right Fork of Turtle Creek.

He reared a family of five boys and three girls. Burwell married Lavina Miller, daughter of Col. E. S. Miller. They had three children: Dr. D. F. Pauley, who could beat anyone in these woods telling what ailed a person; Benjamin married a Cummings and had two children, Leonard and Ora; and Laura Married Charley Ball. The Balls reared seven children, three boys and four girls: Emery who married a Bell; Clarence, killed by a truck;Linford, who married a Barker; Hazel who married Oner Miller; Lona who married Alva Bias; Bessie who married Hilbert Miller; and Leafie who is single.

Eli Pauley, who came from Tazewell county, Virginia, married Acie Pauley, sister of Henry Pauley. He settled near the head of Turtle Creek and lived there until the Civil War. When the Yankees made a raid on Madison, he and some others were sent out on a scouting expedition and met the Yankees on the Tom Price Branch, now Newport Branch, at Danville. They wheeled their horses but they had gotten too close to the enemy and Pauley was wounded. He was taken to Chapman Ballard's who lived near the lower end of Danville and died there. He had three boys and one girl. Columbus married Sarah Hager. Francis married Elizabeth Hager, daughter of Jackson Hager, on Big Creek. They reared three boys and four girls: Julian married Susan Ballard, daughter of B. S. Ballard; Elwood never married; Jesse married a Boggess; Lula married Lewis Miller; Hester married Okey Ballard, son of B. S. Ballard; Eva married Jess Hill, son of George Hill, who lived in the head of Six Mile; Ernie married Jake Price, son of Charley Price.

Babe, brother to F. M., lived on Big Ugly for several years and then on Big Creek. Malissa married Isaiah Miller, son of William, sr. The balance of Henry Pauley's children were: John Allen, who married Frances Cummings; Leander, who married Nancy Cummings, daughter of Robert Cummings; Azariah, married; Mandaville, who married Elizabeth Hatfield, daughter of Calvary Hatfield; Susanna, who married Sylvanus Miller, son of George Miller;Roxanna, who married Sampson Mitchell; Lavina, who married Washington Miller, son of James Miller.

Nelsons

About 1838, it seems, a whole colony of Nelsons and near relatives came from North Carolina to what is now Boone county—but what relation each one was to the others is a question that no one seems to be able to answer.

Among the company were Joe Nelson, who settled on Big Coal Laurel just above the mouth of Hopkins Fork; Tom Nelson, who lived for a long time on Low Gap and later on Big Creek; Greenville Nelson, who possibly lived on Hewett; Irvin Nelson, who lived on Hewett; Elijah Nelson, who lived for a few years not far from Madison and moved to the Kanawha Valley. One of his grandsons has been pastor of the Chelyan Baptist Church for years. Jor- Nelson possibly lived on Big Creek for a time and then moved to what is now known as the Pocahontas coal field when the railroad was built in that region. He sold out for quite a lot of money and came back to Boone county. He was the father of at least four sons, three of whom were Scott, Boone and William.

A Garland Nelson lived on Big Coal Laurel but I donot know whose son he was. There was one who was called Long Tom, but I don't know what happened to him.

Millie Nelson, a sister of Joe Nelson, was the mother of Hugh, William R., Floyd, Anderson, Jim, Jasper and Mary. Hugh settled on Campbells Creek and died there about the time the C.&O. railroad was being built. Floyd Nelson was killed in the battle of Bowling Green, Ky., in the Civil War. Jim was killed by a house log on Pond Fork. Anderson "Dyke" married a Garrison first and after her death he married a McNeely. He lived on Big Coal Laurel. Jasper Nelson married a Jarrell.

Mary married Dave Doss and was the mother of a large family. They lived on Jacks Branch. Watty Miller taught school two terms there and boarded with them. He said Aunt Mary was one of the best women he has ever seen. Leland Nelson taught and boarded there too.

William R. Nelson stayed with Tom Nelson on Low Gap until he was grown. Then he contracted to work for Col. E. S. Miller on Turtle Creek for 62½ cents per week and his board and clothing. In a few years he married Mary (Polly), daughter of E. S. Miller, and, after the war, they moved to the head of Mud river, cleared away the timber, built a log house, moved into it in '64 or '65, and there they lived and reared eleven children, and there they died and there they were buried—she in August, 1895,

and he on April 9, 1916. At his death he owned 880 acres of land and over $11,000.00 worth of personal property. They had seven boys and four girls: Sylvester, Floyd, Ezekiel, Wilse W., Samuel, Isaiah, Elmer, Martha, Victoria, Alice and Sarah. Four of his sons taught school. Wilse W. taught thirty-three years and was superintendent of Boone county schools for eight years. Sam Nelson was said to be one of the best blacksmiths in this part of the country. He never married 'til late in life and has no children. He now resides in Orgas.

Elmer Nelson, the youngest son of William R., taught school a few years and went to Mountain State Business College. After graduating there, he received a job in the County Clerk's office from Bill Osborne, who was county clerk at the time. After that, he was elected clerk. In all, he worked some over 12 years in the assessor's office. The assessor's office in Boone county has the name of being one among the best kept in the state. Dewey Miller is the assessor at the present time.

Elmer Nelson married Pearl Hatfield, a daughter of Smith Hatfield. They are the parents of one boy and four girls. Marvin Nelson married a Copley. They have two daughters, Marvagene and Judy. He works in the office at Wharton for Eastern Gas and Fuel Associates. Edith married Glenn Smith. He is in the Navy and she is working in the county clerk's office at present. They have two children, Glenda and David. Mary Rose married Hershey Smith at Dayton, Ohio. They both work there an dhave one child, Gary. Jewel married Happy Ray McDorman. She works in the post office at Madison and he works in Kanawha county. Ruth Nelson married Albert Edgar Myers. He has a very likable disposition and works in the Down Town Grocery. She has worked in the Coal Valley News. They have two children, Jennie and Rhonda. Isaiah Nelson married Elizabeth Ann Miller. They were the parents of Ethel, who married Bob Justice; Myrta who was burned to death when a small child; Don, who married Della Miller—and has been mentioned in connection with Burwell Miller's family. Don's children are: Malloy Franklin, married to Zetta Miller; Alvin H., married to Pearl Davis; Anna Lee, married to Talmadge Miller; Delta May, married to Sherold Hill; Dennis H., married to Colene Courts; Darrell, Don, jr., and Genevieve.

Malloy's children are: Lynn, Sue, and David; Anna Lee's child is Dennie Reed; Delta's children are Patricia Dawn and Milse; and Dennis has a daughter, Sandy.

Nettie first married Basil Hager. They had two children but for some cause they couldn't agree. So they separated and she married Noah Sutphin. He works for the C. & O. railroad and they have no children. They live at Alum Creek.

Of the daughters of William Nelson, Martha married N. B. Billups—no children. Sarah never married. She was burned to death in November, 1945, at her home on Turtle Creek. The other two girls have been mentioned in connection with the Balls.

There were some other families who were related to the Nelsons who came with them to Boone county. Among them was Conrad Stone who married a sister of Joe and Millie Nelson. He was a Justice of the Peace for several years. He was buried across the river from the mouth of Bias Branch.

There was also a family of Bennetts. Mart Bennett and Wm. Nelson were cousins, so Mart's mother must have been a sister of Millie Nelson, mother of William Nelson. Possibly, there was a family of Smiths also, but, if there were, they have disappeared.

Joe Nelson, who settled on Big Coal Laurel, was the father of at least three boys a nd two girls: Wash, Asa and Owen. One girl married John Keeney and one married a Basham—I think—and later Levi Ferrell. She was the mother of Jack Hendrick's wife. I don't know whether Joe Nelson had any more children or not. Wash, Asa and Owen reared families in that region but I have been unable to trace the relationship. There was a George Nelson, a Johnnie Nelson, a Jack Nelson and a William Nelson but I don't know whose sons they were.

Of the sons of William R. Nelson, Sylvester was the oldest and possibly as hard working one as any of the family and could do many kinds of work. He taught school, farmed, blacksmithed, carpentered, and sawmilled. He made shoes when in his father's home. He married Valeria Jane Miller, daughter of Agustus Miller and settled first in the head of Turtle Creek where he operated a saw and grist mill. He leased some land from Isaiah Miller and had a house partly built when a dispute arose in regard to the lease. He sold his mill and moved out on the mountain at the head of the branch at what is now Billups Town. From there he moved to a farm on Big Coal river, eight miles above Seth. Here, he built a good two-story house, but he had never entirely recovered from the sawmill fever. So he bought a new mill, left his farm and started sawing on Elk Run. In about three years, he was within nine miles of Beckley—still sawing; but, it seemed that fate had de-

creed that he was not to get rich sawing, owing to panic conditions and he was unable to meet his payments. I lost his mill, his farm, and all that he had, but he did give up. They came back to Turtle Creek, built anoth house and started farming again. He kept the post offi on Turtle Creek for a number of years. He moved fr Turtle Creek to Greenview and from there to Pike count Ohio. From there he moved to Jackson county, Ohio., a Valeria died there in December, 1930, and Sylvester ca back to Madison and spent the remainder of his life wi his daughter, Ella Jones. He died in July, 1940. His ch dren are mentioned in the Augustus Miller family.

Ezekiel S. Nelson, son of Wm. R. Nelson, was on the leading school teachers of Boone county for ma years. He was very strict in his discipline and his pupl usually learned well. He died July 12. 1925. He did n marry until he was past 30. He then married Ella Griffi daughter of Alfred and Fannie Griffith of Cobbs Cree Lincoln county. They had two girls, Gladys and Lois. Bo girls teach and people say that both are good teacher Gladys teaches at Laurel City and Lois at Morrisval Neither has married. Both attended Marshall and Concor State Teachers Colleges. Gladys has taught 22 years an Lois 12. Both are Christians. Gladys does valuable wor with the 4-H club. Ezekiel edited and had published booklet, "First Century Olive Branch Baptist Church Coal River Association," in 1924 just before he died.

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Powells

John Powell came from England to Virginia som time in the first half of the nineteenth century. He ma ried Teletha Malcomb and later settled on Spruce Riv across from the mouth of Powell Creek. Up to this tim the creek had been called Phillip's Branch in honor Phillip Hager who settled in the bottom above the mout of the branch. John and Teletha Powell were the paren of three boys and three girls. Joseph married Victori Ball, daughter of Gus Ball. Milton Powell never marrie Jeff married Mary McComas, sister to George McComas.

Eliza married John F. Ballard. Alta married John Perry. Alice married Lewis Vickers.

Prices

The Prices were among the early settlers in Boone county. Tradition says that Tom, and I suppose his wife, his brother Sol, and a boy whom I guess to be John Hill, floated down New River from North Carolina and down the Kanawha to the mouth of Coal River, and pushed their boat up that river to where Danville now is. His father, Benjamin Price, and three brothers: Varnol, Tuncil, and Peter, came later to visit him and decided to stay.

Benjamin, the father of the Prices in Boone county, and his son, Varnol, settled at the mouth of Rock Creek; Peter settled above where Madison now stands, probably not far from the mouth of Workman's Branch; Tuncil settled on Big Horse Creek.

Tom Price at one time owned the land along Coal river from Hopkins' farm below Danville to the first bridge across the river at the upper end of Danville, all of Turtle Creek up to the Sycamore Branch near where Isaiah Miller now lives, and all of Newport Branch, then known as the Tom Price Branch.

Tom reared two daughters, Virginia and Nancy. John Hill married Virginia and Chapman Ballard married Nancy.

Varnol Price was the father of John, Morris, Ben, and two girls. Nancy married Lloyd Williams and Victoria married Vernon Stone of Drawdy.

Peter Price was the father of four sons: Bill, Ben, Peter and Sol.

Tuncil was the father of three sons: William, James, and Tom. William settled just below Kraft and died there many years ago. James married Sally Hopkins and lived for a long time where his son, Tuncil, now lives. They had two boys and one girl: Charley, Tuncil and Beatrice. Tuncil married a Meadows; Charley married a May and Beatrice married Bill Fulton.

James was sheriff of Boone county four years and was in the timber business for years. He died in West Madison. Morris Price married a Griffith, was the father of Ben, Tom, Lloyd, Collin, and Bill, and Ollie and Bobby who died in infancy. Bill is still living. His mind is still normal in spite of his 87 years.

Brad Price, son of Ben and grandson of Varnol, was married twice. His first wife was a Barker. She had two sons, Ewell and Ed of Madison. His second wife was a Miller, daughter of Daniel Miller of Big Hewett. She was the mother of George and James of Madison. I suppose all of these boys were fine folks and I don't mean to take any credit from the others, but I do like George Price.

Perrys

The first account we have of the Perrys was that four brothers came into Logan county from Monroe. One of them, named Jack, settled a mile above Huffs Creek.

He was the father of seven sons and two daughters. His children were: Dr. James, who married his cousin, Margaret, a daughter of Joe Perry; Oliver, who married a Miss Haner; Henry, who married a daughter of Jack Chambers; Alexander, who went to Texas and joined the forces of General Houston and was never heard from any more; Ephraim, John and Silas who moved west; Jane who married Peter Rife; Mary, the other daughter of Jack Perry married Richard Chambers.

Joe Perry, the next brother, settled on Buffalo. He had five sons and four daughters. His son, Frank, married a Workman; Eli Married a Miss Johnson; William and John married Buchannons, and James married a Hatfield. One of his daughters, Margaret, married Dr. James Perry, who was at one time, sheriff of Logan county. Polly married Rhodes D. Ballard, one of the most prominent and highly-esteemed citizens of the county. He was a justice of the peace, served one term in the state legislature, and was a member of the county court of Logan county for years.

Jane Perry married Abner Vance and Flora married Amos Workman. Henry Perry, another of the brothers, went west. James Perry, the fourth brother, settled at what is still called the Perry place. He was Colonel of the Logan county militia for a long time. His sons were: Dow who married a Miss Elkins; Granville who married a daughter of Carter T. Clark; Preston who married a daughter of Pyrrhus McGinnis; John A. who married a daughter of John Farley; Oliver who married a daughter of W. W. McDonald; James who went west and Andrew who enlisted in 1846 in the company of Captain Elisha McComas and went to Mexico and died there.

Jack Perry married a Miss Dixon of Monroe county; Joe Perry married a Miss Shirkey of Greenbrier county; and James Perry married a Miss Roach of Monroe county. It is not known who Henry Perry married. They were the sons of John Perry, who was the father of Mrs. William Hinchman. He was the father of two other daughters: Betty who married Isaac Stollings and Flora who married Samuel Canterberry and moved to Boone county.

John Perry was said to have been quite a learned man. He was the author of an arithmetic which was used as a text in Virginia and North Carolina—for several years.

Getting the Boone county Perrys linked up with these families is where the trouble sets in. Everett and Charles Perry, two teachers in Boone county, are the sons of Joseph Perry of Hewett, a Methodist preacher who was the son of another Joe Perry on Big Coal river.

Back about 1892 there was a George Perry living at the mouth of Little Elk Run on Big Coal, but he moved there from Logan. Back in the 1860's somewhere, a John Perry married a daughter of John Powell. In the late '80's or early '90's, Jake Perry came to Danville to work in a store for Preston Phipps. He came from Guyan. He was a Democrat. Most of the others were Republicans.

There was a John Perry from Big Coal who was a member of the county court for possibly two terms.

A. E. Perry has been principal of Madison grade school for fourteen years or more. Harold, in the U. S. Air Force, and Clair, who is preparing to practice Medicine, are Andy's sons.

Charles Perry has been principal of Laurel City grade school for fourteen years.

The Perrys of Boone have generally been Republican in politics. In religion they have been divided more.

B. L. Perry of Salt Rock was pastor of Olive Branch Baptist Church in the 1850's. He had three sons and one grandson that were Baptist preachers. Uncle "Bud" Perry of Echart was a Baptist and Les Perry, pastor of Lory Baptist Church, is a Baptist. Most of the others I know were Methodists.

When I have more time, I shall attempt to get the various families linked up.

Turleys

Nathan Turley settled on Alum Creek in the last of the 18th or first of the 19th century. It was first said that he owned most of the creek at one time.

He reared four sons: Noah, Andy, Larry and Matt or Mathew. Noah moved to the Laurel Fork of Horse Creek about 1875. The names of his children were Winfield, Sel, Noah, jr. (Bruz), Rosco, Etta, Lettie and Charlotte.

Windfield taught school for a number of years in Lincoln. Later he engaged in the mercantile business at

Woodville, beginning with little and increasing rapidly until he had a large store. Later, he moved to Madison and ran a store there for a few years—returning to Horse Creek prior to 1916. When the flood of that year came, he owned three big stores, most of all which were totally destroyed, but, not being the kind who was easily discouraged, and being a man who possessed business qualifications, and having a reputation for honesty, it wasn't long 'til he was in the wholesale grocery business at Madison—in which he was very successful. He remained in this business to within a year or two of his death. He was vice president of the Boone National Bank, a member of the Madison Baptist Church and choir leader for several years.

He married a McClure and was the father of Clarence, now dead, Ray, Carl, Edward, Paul, Brookie, Mabel and Guyneth by his first wife, and Virginia Alice and Lucille by a second wife.

Edward has been teaching at Greenbrier Military School at Lewisburg and seems to be making a success there. Paul married Alice Breedlove. He helped his father in the wholesale grocery business for 16 years. His wife is running the Bargain Hut in Madison at present. Brookie married a prominent attorney from Preston county, H. G. Shaffer, who was president of the West Virginia Senate for the term beginning 1921. He was spoken of as a suitable man for governor in 1952, also as being a very suitable man for judge in the judicial district composed of Boone and Lincoln.

Mabel married Frank Hedrick. They ran a restaurant in Madison for a time and, after his death, she went to Washington, D. C., and worked for the government for a time. Then she married a Simms.Ray married Gwendolyn Chambers; Carl married Ann Raine; Guyneth married Bob Calmes; Lucille married Joe Morecraft; and Virginia married Harold Bond.

Sel Turley, brother of Winfield, had a hardware store in Madison for a while and moved to Huntington where, it has been said, he made lots of money. He had one son, McCue.

Noah, jr., lived on the old home place on the Laurel Fork of Horse Creek. I do not know if he is still living or not. Roscoe taught school for a number of years. He married a daughter of George Workman. They are members of the Danville Baptist Church and he was choir leader there for many years. Etta married a Craddock; Lettie married a Reese; Charlotte (Lotte) married M. P. Loy. He has taught in Marshall College for many years.

Robertses

It is thought that the Roberts of Boone county came from Kentucky. The first one that this writer remembers seeing was known as Sandy Roberts. He settled in Putnam or Lincoln, possibly Cabell, before the Civil War—but I don't know how long before, maybe several years. I imagine he was called Sandy because of his beard. He was a blacksmith and wheelright. He could build wagons. Only two of his children came to Boone county. One of them, Joseph, married a McNeely, sister of Gordon McNeely of Madison.

They reared two boys and five girls: John G. and Joseph (Dick) Madison, Rebecca, Emily, Louisa, Nancy or Nan, and Leota.

John married Martha, daughter of Jacob Ball. He bought the old home of Joshua Mitchell on Mud and moved there in the late seventies or early eighties. He was a very hard worker and accumulated some wealth. He owned over 600 acres of land from which he sold over $8,000 worth of timber and, if it were now, it would be worth almost ten times that amount.

John and Martha were the parents of the following children: Jacob, Joseph, Edward, John T., Lonnie, Lily, Charley, Flora, Eliza, and Rosa and one or two were born dead. Jacob married Alta Miller, daughter of Perry and Tilda Miller. Jo and Ed never married. Johnny, jr., married a Chapman, daughter of Burwell Chapman. Charles married a Mullins, daughter of Little Jack Mullins. After her death he married Ida Skeenes, daughter of William Skeenes and sister of Rev. Allen Skeenes. Tommie married a daughter of Jerry "Bub" Miller and, after her death, married a Hager.

Lily married Almarine Miller and moved to Arkansas where she died. Flora married Rev. M. T. Miller. She lived in Madison for many years but, at present, is living in Charleston. They reared several children: Orin, Mallie, Frank, Haddon, Johnny, Mae, Opal, Ruby and Norma.

Eliza married Joseph Hager, jr. They had three boys and two girls, all very fine children. Rosa married Robert Harless. They had no children. She was found dead in her home just a few weeks ago. She lived alone.

Of Jacob Robert's children, Melvin has an M. A. degree and is teaching in a Bible school in Missouri. One or two of the girls taught in the free schools. Two of the boys learned the printers trade: Oder and Dallie. Oder,

better known as "Monk", has worked in the Coal Valley News office so long that he has become a part of the fixtures there. Dallie is working in a printing office in Parkersburg.

Joseph Madison "Dick" Roberts married Agnes Miller, daughter of Dryden and Mary Ann Miller. They had two sons, Ebb and Den, who were Freewill preachers. Rebecca married John Ball. Their children were: Elbert, Thomas, Alpha, Chloe, Lenna, Wilmer, Cody, and Monna.

Elbert and Thomas married Nelsons, Alice and Victoria, daughters of Wm. R. Nelson. Alpha married Millard Miller, son of Isaiah Miller. They moved to Ohio. Chloe married Willie Barrett. Lenna married Millard Ballard. They live in Ohio.

Wilmer married an Adkins. Cody married Reedy Miller, widow of Tolbert Miller. Monna has been married three times.

Emily Roberts married Canterberry Hill. They had several children and lived for a time near Lory and later on Little Horse Creek.

Louisa married Edgar Mitchell. They had two sons: William and Millard Morton. William cut his own throat when the miners made their drive on Logan in 1920. Morton served 30 years in the army and is now living at Alkol. Nan Roberts married Spencer Mullins. They separated and she married Samp Thomas. Leota Roberts married John Stollings. They had three children and lived all of their married life on Low Gap. Their son, Burwell, is still there.

One of their daughters married a Barker and the other a Kingery.

Sanderses

The first of the Sanders family in these parts was Martin Sanders whose wife was a Mitchell. He settled on the Garrett Fork of Big Creek about Civil War times. He reared five sons: Noah, Andrew, John, Frederick and Evans, sr.

Noah settled near the mouth of Big Creek, Andrew on Hewett, John on Garrett Fork, Frederick on the head of Hewett; Evans lived nine years on his father's farm and then moved to Six Mile.

He married a Ballard, daughter of Marine Ballard. Their children were as follows: Myrtie married W. W. Vande Linde. She has one son living at Hamlin who was elected and served four years as sheriff of Lincoln county. Mary Estil married William Edgar Hager; Martha married William Allen Wheatley; Arnold married Eliza Garrett; Lula married Homer Wheatley; Jennings married Rhoda Miller, daughter of Lum Miller. She was the mother of Maysel and Joe Sanders. Joe married Freeda Wright. Maysel married Hattie Lee, a daughter of Leonard Miller. Eunice married French Workman. Angie married Dewey Lee Miller, son of Lum Miller. They had three girls and one boy. One of the girls married Arnold Barker; one married a Williams and lives in North Carolina; and the other married Gilbert Dolin, now deceased. The boy is not grown yet.

Denzil married Mattie Miller; Ina married Jessie Lee McKinney.

Daughters of Martin Sanders were Malissa, who married Elias Wall; Mary, who married William Abbott; Catherine, who married Brad Toney; Leah, who married William Akers; and Arrema, who married Keenan Ferrell.

Of Cleophas Sander's children, Bethel married Dollie Wilcox, daughter of Ross and Ethel Wilcox. They have two children, Bettye Mae and Johnny Bill. They live in Madison. The daughters of Cleophas Sanders were Garnet, Archie, Lelia, and Enolia. Garnet married Pete Garrett, son of preacher Dyke Garrett. They are parents of Gertrude, Arden, Jack, and Dyke. Roy Gene and Fred are deceased.

Archie married Kirby Hill, parents of Lyle, Harvey and Joe, deceased. The other children are: Norma, Ruth, Mary Garnet, Elizabeth, Billie, Lelia who married V. Nida, and Enola who married Orpha O. Barker. Jimmy and Kathleen are children of Enola.

Smoots

The Smoots were among the early settlers of what is now Boone county. They were from North Carolina and the first one was Daniel J. Smoot, who settled on the hill in what is now Madison. He reared 10 boys and two girls.

All the boys but three moved on farther west. Sam, Alec and Bill remained. Sam later moved to Virginia. Alec moved to Joes Creek on Big Coal and died there. Bill settled at or near Danville. He was the father of three boys: John, William and Dan. John married and lived across the river from Madison, not far from where the Madison hospital now stands. He raised one boy, Kelley, who never married, and three girls: Myrta, Ella and Florence. Myrta married John Phipps. They went west. Florence married Dr. M. V. Godby. They lived in Charleston. Ella taught in Charleston schools for years.

John Smoot was deputy sheriff in Boone county for at least 12 years, eight years under his brother William and four years under Dan Elkins.

Daniel J. Smoot married a daughter of Joseph Adkins. They reared three boys: Walter, Dr. Edgar and Delmer. They had two girls also. Walter married a daughter of Rev. Addison Griffith. They reared two boys and two girls. I don't know what became of the boys. Carr Carter, son of Dr. H. Lon Carter, married Lydia, one of the girls. Oma has been teaching for years in the Danville school.

Walter was sheriff one term and circuit clerk one term. He was engaged in the lumber business for many years. Dell married Ora Vickers. They live below Danville on the opposite side of the river. He was deputy sheriff for one term. They have no children. Dr. Edgar Smoot had no children of his own. He died years ago. Dan Smoot was county clerk of Boone county for 12 years.

William Smoot married Elizabeth Stollings, widow of Dryden Stollings. She was a Ballard before she married Stollings. They had one girl. She married Wallace Allen. She was the mother of Bill and Emery Allen of Athens, O. Bill Smoot was sheriff of Boone county two terms. He timbered for many years.

Of the two daughters of Dan Smoot, one married Little Mandy Hopkins and moved to Ohio. After he died, she came back to Boone county. The other daughter married W. W. Hall. She lives at Stollings in Logan county.

Of the two daughters of the first Daniel J. Smoot, one of them married an Averille. The first wife of Marine Ballard was probably one of her daughters.

Stollingses

Jacob Stollings was the first of that name that we have any account of. He settled opposite the mouth of Crawley Creek in Logan county. He was the father of four sons and one daughter. The names of his sons were Josiah, who was the father of Wesley, William, Nelson, Lorenzo, Griffin and two daughters; Griffin was the father of Col. J. E. Stollings, an attorney of Madison, Dryden, and Calvary (Cap) Stollings.

Calvary was the father of Herschel, Bub, Bee and three girls. One of the girls married Jacob Chambers; one married Frank Meadows; and the other married Sylvester Wheeler. Dryden married Elizabeth Ballard. They had one son, Doubtin Stollings, who, some say, was sheriff and deputy sheriff for 21 years. Doubtin married the widow of St. Clair Ballard and was the father of Dennis Stollings.

Bee Stollings married a Hill, sister to Pinhook John. They reared one boy, Tolbert, who married a Thompson. She has taught for years and is still teaching. Herschel Stollings married Caldonia Ballard. They had three boys: Hallie, Ernest, and Sam.

Thompsons

Most of the Thompsons in Boone county were the descendents of William Thompson who came from Monroe county in the first of the nineteenth century. He settled not far from where Seth high school now stands. I suppose he was the father of the William Thompson who lived on Ruckers Branch and was circuit clerk for years.

He was a member of the Olive Branch Church in 1831.

His son, William, married a Ballard. They were the parents of two boys, Will and Ev., and two girls, Dote and Mollie. Will married Belle Chambers. Ev was killed before he ever married. Dote married Jake Perry. Will and Belle settled in the head of Lick Creek and are still living there. They are the parents of Loren, Denver, Dover, Silman, and one daughter, Versel, who married Morris Riley. Denver married Gladys Thomas; Dover married Vergie Duncan; and Silman married Viola Jackson. One boy died before he was grown. These boys are all connected with the Carolina Lumber Company and have made a considerable lot of money.

Loren married Vella Hamrick. They live on Lick Creek. She teaches and they have one boy.

William Thompson's second wife was an Adkins, the daughter of Bill Adkins of Rock Creek. They were the parents of Joe, Cal, Del, Walter, Okey, Howard, Sidney, Clarence, Rose, Alice, Courtney and Ethel. Cal married Charlie McNeely's widow. Joe married a Ballard and a Gibson. Del married Carrie Warren; Howard married Flora Cobb; Okey married Kate, widow of Eddie Price; Sidney married Nona Martin; Walt married Dora Tawney; Clarence married Mayme, a daughter of Dr. A. J. Hatfield; Rose married Callie Woodrum and lives near Seth; Alice married Theron Hopkins, Danville; Courtney married John Myers, Madison; Ethel married Wilburn Phipps, Danville; and Ambrosie married John Monk.

Vickerses

In 1860 Simeon Vickers settled at the mouth of the Brushy Fork of Horse Creek. There were four or five of the Vickers brothers: Tom settled on Mud River; Simeon and Lias settled on Horse Creek; and James and Lewis settled on Spruce. Simeon was the father of nine boys and each boy had one sister. Among them were: Marion the one-armed school teacher; Simon, jr., who lived at Laville; Coon Vickers of Blooming Rose; Cap Vickers who used to live on Mud river below the mouth of Sugar Tree; and, I suppose, Charley Vickers of Alkol. The girls all married Bob Toney of Racine.

James Vickers of Spruce reared one boy, Andy, who married Alice Miller, daughter of William Miller of Cox's Fork of Turtle Creek. The names of their children were: Dollie, who married a Ballard; and Nollie, Omer, Brady and Julia. Omer Vickers married the only daughter of Joe Myers.

The daughters of James Vickers were Josephine, Amorine, Willie, Julia, and Ora. At least three of them were teachers—Willie, Julia and Ora. Willie married Charley Jarrell's daughter; Ora married D. A. Smoot. D. A. and Ora live near Danville on the opposite side of the river.

Lewis Vickers married a daughter of John Powell. They had one son who married a daughter of John B. Hager, a Madison attorney. He was a surveyor and the last I knew of him, he was at Huntington, W. Va.

Workmans

The Workmans came into Logan from Virginia. They were the first settlers on the island at the mouth of Island Creek where the town of Logan now stands and some of them drifted into Boone. There are some on Big Creek, and some on Six Mile. George Workman married Mollie Ballard. (Uncle) George is the last living child in his family and Mollie is the sole survivor of her family. They live in West Madison and are the parents of Pearl, who married Ross Turley; Basil, and the twins, Ray and Joe.

The Ellises came from Virginia to Logan county about the same time as the Workmans. Most of them lived on Big Creek. John lived at Laurel City. He had a son, Sid, and Sid had a daughter, Ruby, who is now a member of the Danville Baptist Church and a leader of the young people. She taught school at Morrisvale for a number of years and is now teaching at Danville. D. Ellis lived at Danville for a time and moved to Huntington.

Wheatleys

William B. Wheatley was born Aug. 6, 1861; was married to Myron Ann Conley, born July 6, 1869; had the following children: Allen Wheatley, April 2, 1886; Lonzo, July 4, 1887; Leander, July 4, 1887; Homer, Dec. 25, 1891; Carrie and Billie, birth dates not given; Williard and Wilson, October, 1896; Albert, Pauline, Lizza and Millard.

Children of William Wheatley and Judy Akers, a second wife were: Everett, Fronia, Lucy, Frank and Mildred.

Allen Wheatley married Martha Sanders. Names of their children were: Emil, Mina, Neva, Arden, Phil, Iris, Nelda, Dalmon and Dexter.

Emil Wheatley married Alice Vande Linde. They have three children, two girls and one boy. It is of my opinion that they have one of the finest families in Boone county.

Phil Wheatley married Jewel Smith and are parents of one girl. They live on Turtle Creek. He and his wife are teachers. They are fine folks.

Mina married Cyril Ball and they have two girls and two boys. Neva married Henry Gatzka, no children; Arden married Ferne Dickens, no children; Iris married Virgil Dolin and they have one boy; Nelda married Sherlock Ball and they have two boys; Dalmon married Louise Hannaford and they have one boy; and Dexter died at two years of age.

As to the girls, I don't know much about them. One married Dr. Shurgel, one married a White, one married Herman Linville and the other one never married..

Van White lived at the mouth of Whites Branch.

Andy White has been dead for several years.

There was another set of Whites on the Pond Fork who possibly were not very closely related to Russell White's family. George White, who was the father of Harrison, Ellsworth, Burton, Elbert, Garfield and Hershie. Most of these are dead. Hershie is working for O. L. Mullins at Hamlin. Othar lives at Madison but has a business at Hamlin.

Noah White at Wharton was a son of Lem White. Joseph Jarrell's wife was a daughter of Lem White. George White had two daughters: Minnie who married Frank Horn and Delia who married Ward Stewart. Delia is dead.

Vande Lindes

The Vande Lindes were of French origins, Dr. George Vande Linde being the first to come to what is now Boone county.

He married a Price and settled near the mouth of Rock Creek. He was the father of Vernon, Ben and George Vande Linde.

Vernon married a daughter of Adam Miller in the head of the West Fork.

They lived on Lower Rock Creek and reared a large family consisting of four boys and several girls: Johnny, Otto, Albert and Ben. Vernon Vande Linde taught school for many years and was secretary of Scott District Board of Education for a long time. He was considered one of the best teachers of his day.

Johnny married a Belcher. He was the father of two daughters. He taught school several years, was deputy assessor for some time. He has been dead for a number of years.

Otto married an Adkins. He lives on Lower Rock Creek. They have a daughter Alice that married a Wheatley. They live on Turtle Creek. She teaches.

Otto has a son who teaches also.

Albert Vande Linde married a daughtes of Lewis Hill. They have a son who is a prisoner in Korea. Albert died a few weeks ago. They were operating a restaurant in Madison.

Ben Vande Linde has taught and has been an athletic director and is teaching in Van High at present. His wife teaches also.

Of the girls of Vernon Vande Linde, one married an Easter, two married Chambers, one married a Hill and one married a Butel.

Ben Vande Linde, sr., married Lucy Lavender. They moved from Rock Creek to Spruce Fork. They reared eight or nine children.

He was a Justice of the Peace in Scott and also in Washington district for years.

George Vande Linde married Virginia Echols. He died rather young.

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The Boone County Genealogical Society wishes to publicly thank Mrs. Lester (Edna) Terry, daughter of the late W.W. Nelson for giving us permission to reprint The Branches of Turtle Creek, which has been out of print for many years.

This book, one of the first published about Boone County families, is by no means a complete record of each family. Mr. Nelson wrote about people he knew and did an exceptional job considering it was published years before Alex Haley's Roots, and all the interest it generated in family history.

However, there are errors, typographical and otherwise, which are unavoidable in any work of this nature. We hope you will overlook the errors in light of all the valuable information contained herein.

The Boone County Genealogical Society has published nine volumes of Kith and Kin of Boone County, WV which is about many different families of Boone County and give further information on some of Mr. Nelson's families. Several of our members have also published family histories. More information on these publications can be obtained by writing the society at P.O. Box 10, Hewett, WV 25108. Ask for our book list.